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THURSDAY, MAY 12TH, 2011

LABOUR AM FIRST PAST THE POST

Jane Hutt races clear on a night of shocks in Vale



ABOVE: Jane Hutt retained her seat as the Vale's Assembly Member at last Thursday's election.

JANE HUTT retained her seat as Assembly Member for the Vale with an increased majority last week, on a night that had some surprising consequences for politics in the Vale.

It turned out the real shocks were elsewhere, and when the night was over, it was good news for regional Conservative candidate, Andrew RT Davies, and bad news for Plaid Cymru's Chris Franks.

However, that was all in the future when, at 5am on Friday morning,

Report by
**PHILIP
IRWIN**

the returning officer John Maitland-Evans confirmed the Vale Conservatives' worst fears and announced that Jane Hutt had won a conclusive victory.

From Labour's point of view, the word of mouth had been good all day, and at 11.45pm, a tweet to BBC radio's election special said: "The Vale is in the bag". That tweet may have been a lucky guess, because when this reporter arrived at the count at half past midnight, the votes were still being separated into three piles - AMs, regionals, and AV - and the actual count did not begin until 3.30am.

The turnout in the Vale was good at 46.79 per cent - far better than in

some Assembly constituencies. However, the turnout was good four years ago in 2007, when 48.9 per cent turned out.

In the end, Jane Hutt's vote rose from 11,515 to 15,746 - a jump of 36 per cent!

For the Conservatives, Angela Jones-Evans increased the vote from 11,432 to 11,971, but faced with the collapse in the other parties, this was not enough.

Ian Johnson of Plaid had to grin and bear it as their vote fell from 4,671 to 4,024, while Damien Chick just held on to his deposit as the Lib-Dem vote plummeted from 3,758 to 1,513.

Of course, there was one other variable this time around, because in 2007, Kevin Mahoney of UKIP contested the seat, polling 2,310 votes.

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 7)

Air ambulance

A Barry man is planning to take on the world record for 'the world's longest single darts match' over a two-day period in June.

Richie Williams of the Three Bells public house, will make the attempt with a work colleague from Cardiff to raise money for Wales Air Ambulance.

To read the full story, please turn to page 5.



ABOVE: Cath and Josh hope that funding can be found to allow Barry's Smart Club to continue its good work.

A club in Barry which has been nominated for an 'understanding disability' award and has helped to boost the confidence of youngsters with special needs, was forced to close at just over a week's notice.

It has left local families such as the Watkins, who live in Rhooose, devastated at the news.

Cath Watkins said that her 11-year-old son Josh had shown a "massive" development through his attendance at Smart Club, run by Action for Children on Cardiff Road.

Cath told The GEM: "Unfortunately, due to all the recent cuts, this vital service has been finished due to funding being pulled."

"The children were given just over a week's notice. It is devastating to all the children involved."

Cath received a letter from the club dated April 4 and announced: "It is with regret that I write to inform you of the closure of the Smart Club. We have been informed that as of March 30, there is no longer funding for us to continue."

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

Josh, who attends Ysgol Maes Dyfan and is a keen young footballer who supports Cardiff City, said: "I will miss going there. I enjoyed going there on Saturdays, playing games and learning to cook."

"I was upset when I heard it was going to finish."

Josh had attended the centre every other Saturday.

Cath has been so impressed by the work of the club that she has nominated it for an 'Understanding Disability' award with the Parents' Federation.

"I want to thank Elinor and the staff at the club for all their work over the last five years for Josh."

"He has global development delay and epilepsy, but thanks to the club, his confidence and social skills have grown massively."

"He was due to finish in July, but my concern is for all the little ones who would have been helped in the future."

"A lot of autistic children like their routine and now this has been lost."

"We hope that by some mira-

'MY CONCERN IS FOR LITTLE ONES OF THE FUTURE'

Sadness at the closure of Barry's Smart Club

cle the minuscule amount of funding will be found to keep this vital service available to children with disabilities."

The GEM understands that the club received funding through the Vale Council which came from the Assembly.

A spokesperson for the Vale of Glamorgan Children and Young People's Partnership confirmed that the SMART Club had been funded through the Welsh Assembly Government's Cymorth grant funding which is administered by the Children and Young People's Partnership.

The spokesperson explained: "The criterion for the use of this grant funding has changed and as a result, all the projects funded have had to be reviewed by the partnership."

"It is regrettable that a number of services have had to be reduced or cut as a result, and the partnership fully acknowledges the impact this has had on families."

"However, the partnership continues to ensure that all the available funding continues to be invested in services for children in need across the Vale," the spokesperson added.



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Town council's hope for Cemetery Approach land

IN The GEM's report on Thursday May 5 headed 'Cemetery Approach land question is to be posed at full council meeting', I can't help wondering whether Coun Rob Curtis is trying to make amends following his previous position regarding Cemetery Approach.

It was not that long ago I attended, as a Barry town councillor, a meeting at Cemetery Approach with the Cemetery Approach action group which Coun Curtis attended as a Vale councillor.

At the meeting, he refused to represent his constituents' concerns about the proposal to build a high density housing estate on this open space.

At that time, he said he disagreed with the protesters, saying to them - 'you voted me on the council to put my socialist views forward

for you', campaigned against them, referred to them publicly, stating that he was sick and tired of *nimbys*. (Obviously by this time he forgot the land on his doorstep, Whitefarm, which he campaigned against for housing).

Also he wanted the community protesters to compromise with the council over the housing plans.

In the vain hope that his constituents have a short memory, he is now suggesting allotments on the site, and with his newly-found interest in town council affairs, he points out that the local council are interested in the land for cemetery purposes.

As a town councillor, I can say to Coun Curtis that the town council have for a number of years now been interested in the land either side of Cemetery Approach for cemetery purposes - as it will release valuable land inside the cemetery for burials to take place, land which is now in surplus supply.

Coun Keith Lewis, (Barry Town Council)

A poor show at Dyffryn Gardens

HAVING read your short report about Dyffryn Gardens, I feel compelled to write about our experience of these gardens which we visited on Easter Monday.

We have been living in France for some years now and have, therefore, not been there for some time; consequently, we were expecting a real treat, only to find that they were little changed from our previous visit.

In fact, if anything, they were in a less cared-for state than at that time.

There were only a couple of beds of tulips

and a few pots with flowers; the fountains weren't working and the basin at the end of the water feature was empty, making that whole area look very forlorn.

There did not seem to be much evidence of a 'Fun Day,' except for a bouncy castle for the children.

I remember on our last visit, there was a brass band playing on the lawn by the cafe and lots of stalls and activities around the gardens.

In comparison with that occasion, I think this year's effort was a very poor attempt. Margaret Robinson (formerly of Sully), La Mimaudiere, France.

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

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Key decisions made by councillors from outside town

'Tail wags the dog on Vale Council'

THE status of Cemetery Approach, Barry, as a candidate site for travelling people was always a non-starter - there was never any prospect of this area being used for such a site.

It was simply either grossly insensitive or crassly mischievous for the Vale Council to include it in such a list. Perhaps a bit of both.

The real scandal concerning Cemetery Approach and the people's victory - via an 11,300 signature petition - to prevent inappropriate residential development, is that the Vale

Council has totally failed its constituents in putting this land to recreational use - as was intended when it was given to the people of Barry as open space land by the British government in 1954.

As secretary of the Save Cemetery Approach Action Group that helped, with the support of the people of the town, to save the area from insensitive housing development, I recall we put forward the idea of a community-based project that would have enhanced the local environment and involved local people in a conservation area project, to be run in conjunction with the council.

Predictably, there was no response from the Vale Council: they even continued to use it as a dumping ground for waste from the scheme cleaning up King Square.

The inertia is beyond belief, mainly, I suspect, because key decisions about Barry are made by councillors from outside Barry who have no interest in our town and are exclusively concerned with protecting their interests in the rural Vale.

For too long on the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the tail has wagged the dog. And ever more shall be so - unless those councillors with some shred of conscience decide to do something about it. Derek Hooper, Barry.

Death traps for cats

IWOULD like to draw attention to the dangers presented for cats via top opening windows.

I know of at least five cats that have managed to get themselves stuck in these windows, and in some cases fatally, when they weren't discovered in time.

Cats are stubborn and if a cat is shut in and wants to get out it will attempt to navigate any window that is even halfway open.

The trouble with these windows is that they are death traps. The cat's foot only has to slip and the cat slides down and becomes totally wedged in, slipping lower and lower the longer it is left in there.

I know of one cat that got her neck caught in the window and died of slow strangulation. In another even worse case, the cat was stuck in the window and as time went on, and rescue never arrived, her back was broken.

It was overnight and she was found still alive but horribly injured in the morning. She had been there for hours and the pain that poor little cat suffered doesn't bear thinking about. She died some hours later at the vets.

So please don't risk it. CLOSE these windows overnight and when you're out - or do what I do when it's hot, open them the usual way and NEVER from the top. (Name and address supplied)

Cratered road and fly tippers...

MAYBE there would not be so much fly tipping if the access road to the amenities centre on Llandow was in better condition - it has gone beyond the state of being pot holed, it is cratered.

Driving to the amenities centre poses a real danger of damaging your car. Surely the owners have some sort of responsibility to provide safe access to businesses that rent space on the site?

D Andrews, Boverton.

'Thank you to the electorate'

IAM writing to thank the constituents of the Vale of Glamorgan, and indeed across the south Wales central region, who voted last week for the Welsh Conservatives; in doing so, returning me as an AM for the region.

It was a huge honour to serve my constituents during the third Assembly and I am extremely proud to have the opportunity to do so once again in the coming years. I must stress

that I am here to serve all constituents, regardless of their political orientation, and I look forward to raising issues on their behalf and to holding the Assembly Government to account.

I must also commend the tireless efforts and diligence of the counting officials and the returning officers and staff.

It is only through their dedication and professionalism that the democratic process carries such legitimacy. Andrew RT Davies, AM

'Thanks for street party'

WE would like to show our appreciation of Charles and Sarah and members of the Canon Street committee for organising our royal wedding street party.

They all put a lot of time and thought to ensure everyone enjoyed the day. It was a wonderful day, and our family thoroughly enjoyed it.

There were games, the Canon Street choir, treasure hunt and a very amusing circus entertainer. Also, they held a raffle and all the proceeds went to a local charity, Porthceri church.

It was a very heartwarming occasion and lovely as a community to get together. It certainly was a day to remember.

Mr and Mrs Stewart and Joanne Linney, Barry.

Beach ban on dogs: why bother?

IN reply to the headline in last week's GEM 'beaches ban on dogs', why do the council bother?

Last year was the worst ever. Barry Island beach always had someone on it with a dog, even walking past me with it as I was sitting on the beach!

Llantwit beach... no

different there, people even saying what a lovely time they and their dogs had!

When I tell them about the ban, they just say, 'who's watching?' Exactly, nobody!

On October 1, when they were 'allowed back' on the beaches, my point is, they had never left!

M Wood, Boverton.

Need for more transparency over planning

AS expected, the suggestion of a travellers' site has sparked negative comments, once again, about the behaviour of the Vale Council in its decision making.

Mr Bryn Evans' letter to The GEM last week outlined his concerns and suggested that a strong overarching protest group ought to be formed as a protective measure, to challenge the perceived subversive activities of the council in its determination to give us Barry residents what they think we should have.

Would it not be more effective to ensure that measures are put in place by the council to reassure us all that open dialogue and transparency are applied to all proposals under consideration?

Interestingly, Mr Short, former vice president of the National Gypsy Education Council, wrote in last week's GEM, that the

council had not consulted with gypsy organisations and he recognised that this had the potential for possible conflict, as well as failing to consider the needs of the traveller community.

I believe that there is a blatant arrogance prevalent within the council and its officers believing perhaps that us ordinary folk only want to endlessly challenge their plans.

I would suggest that it is in our interest to have a closer look at the Vale Local Development Plan 2011-2026, which Mr Rob Thomas, Head of Planning referred to - to explore if any of the proposals contained therein have the potential to adversely impact on any particular areas - and the measures that will be applied to ensure that effective early consultation is inbuilt and will be incorporated in any future planning initiatives.

Robert Taylor, Barry.

USED CLOTHES FOR CHARITY

IREFER to the letter on April 28, in The GEM from Mr T Evans of Rhooose, concerning charity appeals for unwanted clothing.

I regularly receive plastic bags to put clothing in; if I have any, I take them to a charity shop in Barry.

However, another nuisance is the number of charity appeals for cash - practically every time one visits Morrisons store, there is someone rattling a box.

Turn on the television and what does one hear - 'Can you afford to send x-amount of pounds to charity?'

I remember reading on a plastic bag that £18 would go to charity for every ton of clothing - not very charitable!

I find, also, that if I send a donation to a charity, I am sent a direct debit form to complete.

I sympathise with Mr T Evans, but what can be done?

Mrs Doreen M Hyman, Barry.

SEE PAGE 17 FOR MORE READERS LETTERS

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MAY 19)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
12 Thur	02.39	8.1	15.25	7.9
13 Fri	03.51	8.3	16.38	8.5
14 Sat	05.03	8.9	17.39	9.1
15 Sun	06.04	9.2	18.29	9.3
16 Mon	06.51	9.6	19.22	9.8
17 Tues	07.51	9.9	20.11	10.1
18 Wed	08.35	10.0	21.00	10.1
19 Thur	09.22	9.8	21.44	9.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

ADDICT FUNDED HIS HABIT WITH OFFENCES

Barry man jailed for drug dealing

A DRUG addict who was involved in "commercial supply" of cannabis to fund his own habit, has been jailed for a year at Cardiff Crown Court.

In addition, Andre

Laventure, 24, of Barry, was jailed for a further two months, to run consecutively, for a breach of a suspended sentence imposed for offences of assault, harassment, and causing unnecessary suffering to a kitten.

Laventure had been committed by Vale Magistrates to Crown

Court for sentence after he admitted possessing cannabis with intent to supply, and possessing cannabis.

Judge Patrick Curran said he gave him full credit for co-operating with the police and he added: "You were not supplying just one or two people. What you did came into the category of commercial supplying."

Prosecutor John Probert said that on February 22, police in Wyndham Street, Barry, spotted Laventure and followed him.

"He smelt strongly of cannabis," said Mr Probert.

He was searched and

cannabis was found on him.

His mobile phone was examined and text messages indicated that he had been supplying cannabis over the previous months. He also had on him £230 in cash.

The court was informed that he told the police after being arrested, that he himself used about three grammes of the drug a day and supplied about 25 people.

His counsel Claire Pickthall said: "It is clear he has had a long-standing addiction to cannabis, which started in 2003.

"His intake has increased over the years and he has had difficulty

in dealing with the end of a long term relationship.

"Through no fault of his own, he also lost his job, which meant he could not fund his habit and thus turned to supplying."

"He was thoroughly upfront with the police and recognises his cannabis use is a serious matter."

She said he wanted to tackle his problem and was seeing a psychologist.

"I would ask you to give him one last chance, because he is doing everything he can to address his problems. This is his first offence of supplying."

CARDIFF
CROWN
COURT
REPORT
by AJ
SICLUNA

How 'courageous' Welsh mother held onto her son

LAST week, The GEM told the heart-warming story of Barry artist, Mary Husted, who was forced to give up her child in the early 1960s and was reunited with him 44 years later.

Mary's story prompted GEM reader Mr Christopher Short to recall the difficulties faced by his mother, an unmarried mum, in the late 1930s.

Mr Short, who lives in Barry, recalled: "Your lead story on the quest by Mary Husted to find her adopted son was very moving and reminiscent of my own late mother's struggle.

"A feisty Welsh woman, born into a military family in Wrexham connected to the Royal Welch Fusiliers, she gave birth to my half-brother Geoff in 1938 – a very difficult time for an unmarried mother.

"In spite of almost unbearable family and peer pressure, she refused to have an abortion, which was illegal anyway, or give up Geoffrey, when born, for adoption."

Christopher's mother worked for Rolls-Royce and transferred from the Derby plant to one in Crewe, while Geoffrey was fostered back in Derby.

However, Rolls-Royce in Derby was making the Merlin aero-engine which made it the

Luftwaffe's number one target and, unable to bear the anguish and worry of estrangement, she returned to Derby to be with her son.

Christopher said: "My mother married my late father in 1945. I came along in 1947 and am very grateful to have a brother who has rescued me from several scrapes!"

He added: "Every personal and family situation is different and I'm glad that Mary Husted – now Vincent – and her son had a happy reunion; it's not always the case.

"I'm very grateful that my late mother, who died in 1984, had the courage and will-power to hang onto my brother against all adversity."

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"We're all ready for a big celebration"

ROYAL WEDDING PARTY FOR THE GUIDES AND BROWNIES!

THE 10th Barry Rainbows, Brownies and Guides enjoyed a royal wedding party planned by Barry Rangers and the leaders.

The girls had a royal wedding banquet, followed by some party games and dancing. The Brownies and Rainbows looked fantastic as

princesses, and the Guides and Rangers dressed as bridesmaids and wedding guests.

All the units have been working on a royal wedding challenge to gain a special commemorative badge.

The senior section is for girls aged 14-18 and if anyone is interested in joining, telephone 07850 058166.

Senior section girls have a

range of challenges they can work on, as well as having fun and adventure. You do not have to have been a Rainbow, Brownie or Guide to join.

Also girls and young women aged 5-26 are missing out on the fun that Girlguiding can offer because there are not enough leaders to offer all the girls on waiting lists a place.

If you are 18-65 and enjoy working with young people, and have a sense of fun, adventure and excitement then you could be just what we need!

There are Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section groups across the Vale of Glamorgan that need your time and enthusiasm. Telephone 07850 058166 for more information. ME

Friendship group wins praise from the former First Minister



There was plenty to celebrate at the recent meeting of Friends and Neighbours in Barry.

FRIENDS and Neighbours held their monthly meeting at the Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry.

Former First Minister Rhodri Morgan and local AM Jane Hutt made a surprise visit to join in festivities.

All members received a Easter egg and enjoyed a pleasant afternoon with cakes and hot cross buns.

Also, royal wedding flags and bunting were displayed in the shop to celebrate the royal wedding.

The group has really flourished since it was formed, and won praise from both Rhodri Morgan and Jane Hutt

The group plans to mark its first anniversary in June with an outing and a meal.

For further details, telephone 01446 400044. GF

Star athlete visits school



JENNER PARK was one of the first primary schools in Wales to get a visit from the Jamie Baulch Academy.

"The children thoroughly enjoyed the athletic activities provided by Jamie and his team and had an opportunity to have a photograph with him to keep as a memento," a spokesperson said.

Art Central talk on Sutherland

ART Central Friends group at Barry were treated to an illuminating talk on the artist, Graham Sutherland, by curator and lecturer, Sally Moss, last week.

Her expertise on the artist led her to be the first curator of the Graham Sutherland Gallery at Pictorial Castle, Pembrokeshire. The talk, illustrated with a slide show, focused on Sutherland's fascination with machinery and mining in Wales and Cornwall.

Members also viewed an exhibition by the Welsh Group of artists living in Wales.

The next exhibition on the work of Mary Husted, is from May 14-June 4 at 10am-4pm (Tuesday-Saturday).

Vale AM hears of Barrivale concerns

JANE HUTT AM for the Vale, visited Gwenog Court to meet Joan Jones and Barrivale club members who previously met at Rondel House, Barry and now meet in the residents' lounge of Gwenog Court.

As well as wishing Sheila Pritchard happy birthday, the club discussed their concerns about the future of Rondel House.

More Ms Hutt and Coun Margaret Alexander that Rondel House provided a vital

link for companionship, meals, activities and helped to maintain and sustain their health and wellbeing.

The newly re-elected AM said: "It was pointed out that Rondel House has been supported for many years for the work it does for older people, supporting them on a regular basis, helping to keep them independent and in touch with services which they are entitled to."

"I have raised my concerns with the Vale Council and said that I would report back the experiences, concerns and worries of the people I met," she added.



Guides and Rangers

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (THOMPSON STREET, BARRY) ONE WAY (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2011

1. On 12th May 2011 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Thompson Street, Barry) One Way (Temporary) Order" 2011.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in a southeasterly direction in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location: The area to be closed to all traffic travelling in a southeasterly direction is Thompson Street, Barry along its entire length.

Reason: To allow essential carriageway maintenance and upgrade works to take place.

Duration: From 00.01am on Thursday, 19th May 2011 for a maximum period of 18 months

Alt. Route: Diversions for southbound traffic shall be via Holton Road, Broad Street and Dock View Road. Traffic exiting from the side roads and car parks into Thompson Street shall continue in a northwesterly direction along the remaining section of Thompson Street to Holton Road, and then follow along the diversion as described above.

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times. Dated this 12th day of May 2011.

M. Punter,
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2011 GORCHYMYN TRAFFIG UNFFORDD (DROS DRO) (THOMPSON STREET, Y BARRI)

1. Ar 12 Mai 2011, bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1) Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddwygiedig), yn gwneud Gorchymyn i'r diben cyffredinol a nodwyd yn yr atodlenni isod:

2. Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel "Gorchymyn Traffig Unffordd (dros dro) (Thompson Street, y Barri) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2011".

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd hawl i neb yrru na chaniatáu i neb arall yrru cerbyd i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain yn y fan a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad: Thompson Street, y Barri (ar ei hyd) yw'r ardal i le na fydd hawl i unrhyw draffig deithio i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain.

Rheswm: Er mwyn i waith cynnal a chadw a gwella han fodol gael ei wneud ar y ffordd.

Cyfnod: O 00.01am ar ddydd Lau 19 Mai 2011 am 18 mis ar y mwya.

Ffordd arall: Bydd traffig sy'n teithio i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain yn cael ei ailgyfeirio ar hyd Holton Road, Broad Street a Dock View Road. Bydd traffig sy'n dod i Thompson Street o'r fyfyrdd cefn a meysydd parcio'n cael teithio i'r gogledd-orllewin ar hyd gweddill Thompson Street nes cyrraedd Holton Road, ac yna'n dilyn y trefniadau ailgyfeirio a disgrifiwyd uchod.

DS: Bydd cerddwyr yn cael defnyddio'r stryd hon drwy gydol yr amser.

Dyddiedig 12 Mai 2011.

M. Punter,
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenvô. CF5 6AA.



TAFFY PARACHUTES IN!

RIGHT: Donald Davies and 'Taffy' are encouraging people to support a parachute drop for the Operation Shoebox Appeal.



'I'm backing the St Cadoc's charity event with my special toy'

A Barry man is encouraging people to support St Cadoc's 'teddy bear parachute jump' on Sunday, May 29 – and explained that his own cuddly toy has a special history.

The event, in which teddy bears 'jump' from the church tower, is always popular locally and aims to raise money for the Operation Shoebox Appeal.

Mr Donald Davies, aged 73, has been given a generous dispensation by organisers to use his cuddly dog rather than the traditional teddy bear.

"His name is Aberfan Taffy and I got him shortly after the disaster in Aberfan."

In 1966, 144 people,

116 of them young children, died when abnormal rain triggered coal waste movement.

At the time, Mr Davies was working at the Aberthaw Cement Works.

"I can still remember at work when we heard about Aberfan on the radio. We drove up there to try and help, but were stopped by the police, who advised us not to proceed because they needed to keep the road clear."

Shortly afterwards, Mr Davies was in the area on a delivery run and went into a shop where he saw the cuddly toys.

"I was told the toys had been made to raise money for families caught up in the tragedy and promptly bought one."

For Mr Davies and his

late wife Marilyn, from that point on, it was always a special toy.

"The organisers of the 'teddy bear jump' are allowing me to take part so I hope friends and family will sponsor me, or support other people because it is to help a very good cause."

Last year, parishioners were able to send 600 shoe boxes to needy children in eastern Europe.

Ford radio stereos stolen

POLICE this week issued a warning after stereos were stolen from parked cars in Penarth.

A spokesperson reported that 10 Ford Focus cars were broken into in the Cogan area overnight on May 8-9.

"All the incidents saw the cars having their nearside front window smashed and at the CD radio being targeted. T

"Three suspects were disturbed at around 12.20am on Monday, May 9 in Harriet Street in Cogan. One was wearing a grey hooded top and two were in black jackets.

"There have also been similar incidents in the Barry area recently"

Inspector Chris Owen commented: "We have seen similar spates previously which are linked to an urban myth about the radios containing a special microchip.

"Experts have concluded that the microchip cannot be used in this way and the thieves are wasting their time.

"We need information about who is responsible for stealing these radios and where they are selling them.

"They are probably offering these radios for sale cheaply and I would ask anyone who is offered a cheap Ford radio to decline and call us immediately."

Contact Penarth police station on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Barry man recalls rescue in tidal pool

Following a story in The GEM about a community organisation hoping to revive the tidal paddling pool at Whitmore Bay, a Barry man has been in touch to provide his memory of it – and a timely warning!

Mr Noel Bishop, aged 85, said: "The picture of the pool you showed in your article in The GEM brought back memories to me of long ago.

"On a summer day way back in the 1930s, my mother took me and my brother to Whitmore Bay sands.

"My brother would have been about seven and I would have been four years old.

"Sitting on the side of the pool – the slippery side due to marine growth – I fell into the water.

"I can remember to

this day the water, rather black, going past my eyes.

"My brother stood still on the other side of the pool shouting to my mum: 'He's drowning'.

"Fortunately, my mum grabbed me and hauled me out. At the age of 85, I can still recall the incident so clearly.

"In my Navy records I was later classed as a non-swimmer!"

Recollections vary as to how deep the water in that original tidal pool was. A local trader estimated the depth in the 1970s as being around 2 foot 6 inches.

Mr Bishop said: "I think the water was deeper than that, but if there is to be a new pool there must be supervision."

The organisation involved in the project @BarryIsland has said it will be providing responsible supervisors.

Barry Cadets hot shots are Bisley bound!



Two of the sharp shooting cadets.

ARMY Cadets from Barry Detachment took part recently in the annual cadet inter-services 'Skill At Arms' meeting (CISSAAM) in Sennybridge.

CISSAAM, organised by 160 (Wales) Brigade, pitches all Army Cadets in Wales against each other in a competition to find the best shots in Wales on the cadet GP rifle and the cadet target rifle.

A Company, Dyfed and Glamorgan ACF, which included cadets from Barry, were the overall champions, and will now go forward to represent Wales against the best from all three uniformed cadet services at the annual shooting competition in Bisley.

Staff Sergeant Steve Wood, whose son Oliver was part of the winning team, has played a crucial role in teaching shooting for Army Cadets in the local area and was delighted with the victory.

Steve, who is also Commander of Barry Detachment, said: "It's

great to see all the hard work and time these cadets put in pay off with such a significant achievement.

"Our cadets will go forward to Bisley and make us proud!"

Richie and Steve hope their darts record attempt hits the bullseye

RIGHT: Richie and Steve are preparing to make history by taking part in the longest darts match ever.



BARRY darts player Richie Williams, of the Three Bells public house darts team, is attempting to break a world record to raise funds for a Welsh charity.

Richie and work colleague Steve Davies hope to claim the record for the 'world's longest singles darts match' over the two days June 10-11.

Richie and Steve work together at the Principality Building Society and are aiming to raise funds for the Principality's chosen charity of the year,

Wales Air Ambulance.

Richie explained: "Our world record attempt is being held in Rileys Snooker Hall, Wellington Street, Cardiff."

"We start at 8am on

Friday, June 10, and finish at 7p.m. Saturday, June 11.

"The attempt requires the two dart players to play continually for 35 hours, being allowed a mere five-minute break for every full hour of darts played.

"If we achieve that, we will beat the current world record of 32 hours and 25 minutes by more than two hours.

"If people would like to donate to the charity, please pop into a Principality Building Society branch and pay money into the Charity Of The Year account, and mention the darts world record.

"People can also come down and watch the event taking place."

Rotary's 'seniors out' excursion

THE Rotary Club of Barry held its annual 'Seniors Out' day recently when 24 eager pensioners from Rondell House, accompanied by Rotarians Don Parker and Jill Osborne, were taken by coach to Porthcawl.

On the journey, they took the Coast Road and stopped for a while at Southerndown to enjoy the views across the channel.

Reaching Porthcawl, they stretched their legs on the Promenade and sampled ice cream in the warm sunshine.

Afterwards, they returned to Buttrills Community Centre, where the ladies of Inner Wheel supplied a sumptuous tea.

Speaking afterwards,

incoming president David Ball said it had been a "magnificent day" which he hoped everyone had enjoyed,

and thanked the ladies of Inner Wheel for catering to their usual high standard! **RB**

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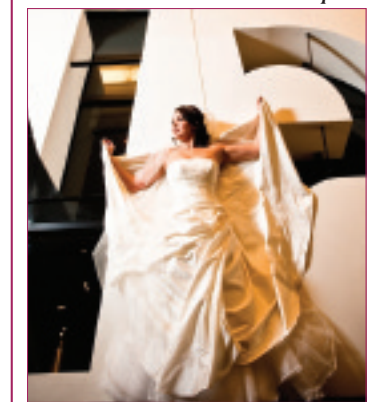
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VALEPLUS GROUP WINS PRAISE FOR HELPING TO CLEAN UP STREETS



ABOVE: Denny White, senior enforcement officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, with members from the Barry contingent of ValePlus.

THE ValePlus group has been praised by the Vale Council's waste management and cleansing team, for helping to keep the streets clean.

ValePlus provides educational, social and vocational opportunities for adults with learning and

related disabilities and has been tackling littering on Barry's High Street.

Senior Enforcement Officer at the Vale Council, Denny White, was handed an anti-littering petition by the group and quizzed on some of the issues raised, including litter bins on the High Street, and road sweeping.

Denny White commented: "It's so important to have community groups caring for our local environment. In turn, we have granted permission for them to informally adopt a small section of the High Street (by the chapel) and help the Council with cleansing activities in this small designated area."

RIGHT: Retired Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Captain Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards, is pictured with the Mayor of the Vale, Coun Colin Osborne and the Mayoress.



Lord Lieutenant and deputies at service

THE Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Dr Peter Beck, and his Deputy Lieutenants recently attended morning service at All Saints Church, Penarth.

Lessons were read by the Lord Lieutenant and the Vice Lord-Lieutenant, Commander John Curteis (St Hilary).

Intercessions were led by Major Duncan Cantley DL of Penarth and the sermon was preached by the chaplain of the lieutenancy group, captain the Rev Dr Desmond Harvey (Llanmaes).

Photographs by HEATHER MARCH



Major Duncan Cantley DL, with one of the duty Cadets

The Lord Lieutenant arrives at the church.

Wednesday Afternoon was a royal occasion!

RIGHT: Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, stops to chat with some celebrating members of the Dinas Powys Wednesday afternoon club.



JANE HUTT AM for the Vale joined members of the Wednesday Afternoon club, Dinas Powys for the royal wedding day celebrations.

They were entertained by Gwyneth and the Rainbow choir, and had a "good old-fashioned sing song".

Find us on Facebook - facebook.com/gemnews

CCTV arrests

CCTV under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with 18 arrests in the week ending May 1.

It contacted the police on 56 occasions, with four arrests taking place on Broad Street; three for public order and one involving drunk and disorderly.

Seven arrests took place at High Street, six concerning assault, with one other alleged for being drunk in charge of a vehicle.

Six arrests were made at Holton Road; four involved a theft, one drunk and disorderly, and another for alleged possession of an offensive weapon.

In addition, one arrest was made at Barry Island involving public order.

COASTAL CONCESSION TENDER OFFERS FOR LICENCE

The following Coastal Concession is available by Formal Licence from 14 June 2011 for a period until 31 May 2014

KNAP LAKE BOATING CONCESSION LICENCE, Knap Lake, Lakeside, BARRY

Interested parties must request tender documents from the Estates Section.

Closing date for receipt of completed tender documents is 12 noon, Wednesday 1st June 2011.

Contact:
Sian Cornwell-Shaw
Estates Section
The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Civic Offices
Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU
Tel: 01446 709756
Email scornwell-shaw@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



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FULL DETAILS PUBLISHED
NEXT WEEK

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THE SHOWROOM IS PRESENTLY CLOSED
WHILE WE COMPLETE ALL SALE PREPARATIONS

ELECTION STATS TELL A TALE OF TWO VALES

(CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 1)

No one from UKIP stood this year, with Mr Mahoney a candidate on the regional list, so it was a question of which party could attract those voters.

In the end, the 'lost' votes of Plaid, the Lib-Dems and UKIP totalled 5,202 – so you don't need a mathematician to work out that the vast majority of those (4,231) migrated to the indefatigable Jane Hutt.

COINCIDENCE

In a weird statistical coincidence, the result in the Vale of Glamorgan was mirrored in the Vale of Clwyd.

There, Labour's Ann Jones was defending a majority of just 92 over her Conservative opponent, compared to Jane Hutt's 83.

There were almost identical results as the Vale (of Glamorgan) AM increased her majority to 3,775, while the other Vale (of Clwyd) AM increased her majority to 4,011.

A jubilant Jane Hutt said: "I would like to thank the people of the Vale for their overwhelming support for me on May 5.

"I have served the Vale for the past 12 years and I am honoured and thankful that trust has been placed in me once again in the 2011 elections.

"I commit myself to continuing to represent and support my constituents over the next five years in every town, village and hamlet, as well as serving the people of Barry in the heart of my constituency."

However, those electoral shocks in the Vale turned out to be elsewhere – and it was bad luck for Chris Franks and 'good luck' for Andrew RT Davies.

Mr Franks represented South Wales Central as a regional AM, along with Leanne Wood (Plaid) and Andrew RT Davies and David Melding (Conservative), who



ABOVE: Joining Jane Hutt at the Senedd for the swearing-in ceremony were her husband Michael Trickey, her election agent Jeff Evans, Carol Evans, and Chris and Kandi Elmore.

were all re-elected.

Plaid's vote fell, but that was not enough to put his position as a regional AM in peril. It was events in Cardiff, in the Cardiff Central constituency, that would prove to be his downfall.

The seat had been held by Jenny Randerson now Baroness Randerson) for the Lib-Dems, and her departure for the Lords meant that she took a sizeable personal vote with her.

Still, she was bequeathing a majority of 6,565, so it would take a spectacular collapse in the Lib-Dem vote for the nearest challenger, Labour, to take the seat.

Of course, Cardiff Central has a high student population, presumably angry at the tuition fees issue, and that huge majority, in the words of Bruce Springsteen "just vanished right into the air" – and Labour took the seat by just 38 votes.

This loss meant that the regional list had to be re-calibrated to take account of Lib-Dem voters, and as Plaid's number two in the list, Mr Franks had to go, and John Dixon (Lib-Dem) took his place.

It is quite an irony that the rise in tuition fees – a policy that Labour and Plaid did not implement – probably ended up costing a Plaid AM his seat.

Chris Franks told The GEM that his time in the Assembly had been a "wonderful experience", although it had been "gruelling and arduous work".

He said: "It was a good four years to be in



LEFT TO RIGHT: The other Assembly candidates, Dr Ian Johnson (Plaid Cymru), Damien Chick (Lib Dem) and Angela Jones-Evans (Conservative).

the Assembly, coming at a time when Plaid were in a position of influence, rather than as an opposition party.

"I think that the coalition achieved a number of good things."

He added that the only decision he had made about his future plans was not to take a decision in a hurry.

It was a very different evening for Andrew RT Davies, who retained his seat as a regional AM for South Wales Central.

Speculation had been rife before the election that Mr Davies had been planning a challenge to the Conservative leader Nick Bourne, who was another to suffer the vagaries of the regional list.

After the Conservatives made gains on election night, Mr Bourne lost his regional seat, leaving the party looking for a new leader.

In another twist, Jonathan Morgan, another likely leadership contender, lost his seat in the Cardiff North constituency to Julie Morgan.

Mr Davies paid a full-some tribute to both of his departing colleagues.

He said: "One cannot underestimate the impact that Nick had on this party in the years following the devolution settlement."

"He has worked tirelessly to re-invent the party as one that is fully supportive of devolution, playing a high-profile role in the recent referendum on further powers, and leading the party to gains in every Assembly election under his leadership."

He added: "It is certainly a bizarre twist that the party could lose its leader directly as a result of the party performing so well. Perhaps there is a case for looking again at the issue of dual candidacies following his departure, as he will certainly be a huge loss to the Assembly."

"One thing that is certain is that Nick's legacy has been secured following an excellent showing in last week's elections, and I'm sure he will be proud to have restored the Welsh Conservatives

as the second party in Wales."

Speaking about Jonathan Morgan, Mr Davies said: "Jonathan was a passionate and hugely effective servant for the people of Cardiff North."

"Jonathan will be missed in the group but he should be commended for his many achievements as an Assembly Member; not least in securing the power to legislate here in the field of mental health."

"I feel sure that we have not seen the last of Jonathan and I know that he will be missed by colleagues and constituents in equal measure."

Mr Davies told The GEM: "As far as the leadership issue is concerned, I think that any politician would like to be considered for that role."

"At the moment, discussions are taking place, but nomination forms have to be returned by next Monday (May 16) so the situation should be clear by then."

'Humbling result as Vale puts its trust in me again'

WITH the dawn breaking on May 6, nearly eight hours after polling stations closed, the message came through that the count was over in Barry Leisure Centre for the 2011 Assembly elections.

The candidates were called to meet with the Returning Officer to hear the results.

The night had been long following an intensive campaign, and all were on tenterhooks with the memories of four re-counts in 2007 fresh in our minds, resulting in my majority of 83 votes.

This time, it was palpably different during the six-week campaign, with a warm response indicating there might be a better result.

To receive the news in the early hours on Friday that I had secured 15,746 votes with a 3,775 majority was humbling.

With that result, I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude and thanks to all those who supported me, by putting their trust in me this time round.

It also gave me the opportunity to pledge myself once again to the people of the Vale of Glamorgan – in every village, town, and com-

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by Jane
Hutt AM

throughout the campaign, and our support for young people with the new 'Welsh Jobs Fund' was well received.

However, it was also clear in this campaign that the hard work we have carried out in the Vale over the past 12 years has helped make a difference for individuals, families and communities.

I started out in politics with a commitment to be as accessible and attentive as possible, to respond to peoples' needs and concerns via the casework and issues we have engaged with.

Of course, there have been disappointments, but myself and my team have always tried to do our best to help, assist, advocate and if necessary campaign, on behalf of our constituents with some success.

After the hectic campaign, exciting election day and a few hours rest at the weekend, I am back in business, to carry on my work for you, the people of the Vale and to support our Leader, Carwyn Jones AM, as First Minister.

Once again, I would like to thank all those who have supported me across the Vale.

I am here to serve ALL my constituents.

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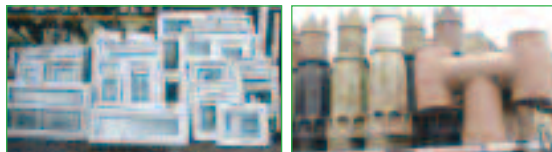
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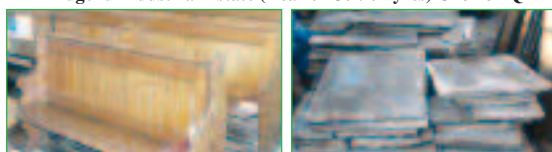
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Vale says no to AV

ALMOST 70 per cent of Vale voters turned down the Alternative Vote proposal. Yes votes were 10,287. No votes totalled 22,682 (68.97 per cent).

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'I've sent him to the kingdom of heaven'

Penarth mother strangled autistic son with a belt

THE trial began at Cardiff Crown Court this week of a "devoted mother" who is alleged to have murdered her 11-year-old autistic son by strangling him to death with a belt.

Yvonne Freaney, 49 of Penarth, has pleaded not guilty to murder but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Gregg Taylor QC, who leads the prosecution, has not accepted her plea to the lesser charge.

Police found Freaney and her son Glen at the Sky Plaza Hotel, Rhosneigr, in May

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

last year.

She told officers: "I killed him about 36 hours ago. I strangled him and used my belt over there by the bed."

She pointed out that he was severely autistic before adding: "He is in heaven now, where he won't be autistic. He'll be happy now."

"I cut my wrists and laid down to go to sleep but I woke up. The bleeding had stopped."

She told the police she had to do it as no one else would have looked after her son. She said: "I put him to sleep in the early hours."

"I started on myself then. I needed to be

with him. I've sent him to the kingdom of heaven. He is happy there."

She said that as she strangled him, the child laughed.

Freaney also said her one regret was that she had not killed herself.

Mr Taylor said that Freaney was undoubtedly a devoted mother, who had experienced a long history of domestic abuse and self harm.

She lived in dirty conditions, and the police had been called to her home concerning allegations of domestic violence.

The prosecutor said she left her husband in March last year and stayed with her son in a number of hotels.

He said that she had been the treasurer of the Penarth branch of the Royal Air Forces Association and had let the accounts get out of control.

The case is expected to continue until the end of the month.

£30,000 worth of damage at local bus depot

POLICE are hunting those responsible for £30,000 worth of criminal damage caused to a bus fleet in the Vale.

Twelve buses had their tyres slashed at the Est bus depot in Llandow Trading Estate over the weekend.

Police believe the damage took place between midday on Saturday, May 7 and 7am on Monday morning May 9.

PC Carl Parry said: "This was a deliberate

act of criminal damage upon a business operating in the Vale of Glamorgan.

"We are appealing for any information which will help us to detect this crime. If anyone saw anything suspicious during the period in question please contact us."

If you have any information about this crime, please contact PC Carl Parry at Llantwit Major police station on 0101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal over two burglaries

POLICE are appealing for information on burglaries that occurred in two neighbouring homes at Paget Road, Penarth on Wednesday, May 4 between 1pm and 5.50pm.

Items taken included two Apple Mac Mini hard drives, a silver wireless keyboard, an Apple Mac book, a distinctive Azendi green diamante necklace and a Beijing commemorative medal. Police are appealing

for witnesses who may have noticed any suspicious behaviour at the time in question, and for any information on three male youths who were seen in the area at the time.

One is described as about 15-years-old, plump and just over 5ft tall with short fair hair; the second youth is slim with short fair hair. There is no description of the third male.

If you have any information, please call Barry CID on 01446 731606 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

False report duo cautioned

A VALE couple have been cautioned after falsely reporting a burglary to police.

A spokesman said that officers received reports of a break-in in Barry but that following enquiries, it was quickly established that this was not true.

"The 36-year-old woman and 29-year-old

man reported that they had returned home to find that a 32-inch television along with its coin box had been stolen.

"However, it was later established that the rented television had in fact been sold for cash," he stated.

The pair received a police caution for fraud and theft offences.

Llandow drilling row set to resume

by GEM reporter

PROTESTS over proposals to test-drill for gas at Llandow Business Estate are set to be re-ignited after the company behind the application re-submitted its plans.

In April, two days before the Vale Council planning committee were due to visit the site at Llandow, Coastal Oil & Gas Ltd withdrew their application as a result of the discovery of a private residence some 200m from the test location.

Vale MP Alun Cairns has already expressed his disappointment at the news that Coastal Oil & Gas will be re-applying for the exploratory bore hole for shale gas.

The licensing of all UK oil and gas exploration and production is the responsibility of the Department for Energy and Climate Change, and Coastal Oil and Gas bought their licence in 2008.

The planning in Llandow, however, is a matter for the Vale Council and Welsh Assembly.

Mr Cairns said: "I am

concerned that even if the local planning committee oppose the application, WAG will overrule them, in the same way that they did on the incinerator in Barry."

Mr Cairns highlighted at the three public meetings held in the Western Vale over the last month, that the Welsh Assembly Government has already refused his request to 'call in' the planning application.

He continued: "I sincerely hope that the planning committee will oppose the application should it be re-submitted. There is a house within 200 metres and the residents' life will be intolerable while the drilling is being conducted. This is a precious part of our community. It is close to Llandow, Singingstone, Llyswoyney and Llantwit - some of the prettiest villages in Wales and along the heritage coast."

"It is also adjacent to 'grade one' agricultural land, very little of which exists in Wales. Reports of the environmental impact seen elsewhere

would be catastrophic for our community."

Louise Evans of 'The Vale Says No' campaign said: "Although we are disappointed to learn of the resubmission, it is no surprise to us and we feel we are far more prepared to oppose the application this time."

"The support from local residents and from further afield for this campaign has so far has been overwhelming, although we must stress to everyone that, when the new application is submitted, all letters of opposition will have to be resubmitted too."

"If this is allowed to go ahead, even at this test stage, the effect to the local community will be felt immediately."

"I recently received a communication from a gentleman who has withdrawn an offer on a residential property in Llandow, as a direct result of the threat of gas drilling."

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "Now that Coastal Oil and Gas has resubmitted its application to test drill for gas in Llandow, I will once more be supporting the 'Vale Says No' campaign against this potentially catastrophic proposal for the Vale."

"I am re-submitting my objections to the Vale Council and will write again to the UK Government and Welsh Assembly Government to call for a moratorium on shale extraction until safety concerns about the controversial 'fracking' process have been fully considered."

"This is not just a Vale issue, but a UK one: there are serious environmental and public health concerns surrounding the 'fracking' process and Huw Irranca Davies, the Labour Shadow Environment Minister in Westminster, has also called on the UK Government to agree a moratorium on extraction."

Men face jail over death of lorry driver

by AJ SICLUNA

A FORD Transit driver has appeared at Cardiff Crown Court and admitted causing the death of a lorry driver on the M4 by "careless or inconsiderate driving".

Stephen Paul Jones, aged 51 of Rochester, died after his lorry, heading west on the M4 between junctions 34 and 35, hurtled over an embankment to avoid the van, being driven by 45-year-old Martin Casey of Bridgend, which overturned into his path.

Sentence on both men was adjourned for reports until June 17, and they were released on bail.

Judge Nicolas Parry warned them: "This is a very serious and very tragic matter. Prepare yourselves for a custodial sentence."

Casey, who has no previous convictions, and the owner of the van, Masood Anwar, 59, also of Bridgend, pleaded not guilty to causing the death of Mr Jones by dangerous driving.

Anwar, who also has no previous convictions, pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting Casey.

Sentence on both men was adjourned for reports until June 17, and they were released on bail.

Judge Nicolas Parry warned them: "This is a very serious and very tragic matter. Prepare yourselves for a custodial sentence."

Old phones for charity

THROUGHOUT this month, Bon Marche in Holton Road, Barry, is collecting old mobile phones in aid of Help for Heroes.

"People can bring them into the store or collect a prepaid envelope from ourselves. Also in store, we have the official 'H4H' wristbands for a suggested donation of £2," said store manager Sandra Downing.

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

Cemetery Road gypsy site is not a preferred option

THERE has been considerable coverage over recent weeks about gypsy sites in the Vale of Glamorgan and it was even suggested, to the understandable alarm of local residents, that the site east of Cemetery Road, Barry, was a preferred option.

I am pleased to say that this is not the case. The Vale Council, like every other council across Wales, is following procedures set out by the Welsh Assembly Government.

Some time ago, the Welsh Assembly Government passed a policy, forcing every council in Wales to have a gypsy site. I opposed this at the time, as did my party colleagues.

However, all councils are forced by WAG to contact all individuals and businesses who have asked for their land to be considered for development as part of the Local Development Plan (LDP).

The Vale Council is currently preparing a new LDP, which will set out how land within the Vale will be used between 2011 and 2026.

This includes everything from green spaces, housing developments, community facilities and employment opportunities to transport, waste management and retailing. The proposals and policies in the LDP will eventually



Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

replace those in the current Unitary Development Plan and is the blueprint for all development and planning applications.

The council's initial investigation involves contacting all landowners to ask if they would consider a traveller site development on their 'candidate' site. This is a process laid out by WAG and one that must be followed.

The first draft of the LDP will be published in the summer. There

will be a wide consultation on all aspects, including any proposal for a gypsy site.

I am confident that the sites mentioned thus far are highly unlikely to go forward as proposed gypsy sites; however, I am concerned that it is the Welsh Assembly Government who could have the final say.

It is WAG that signs off the plan. Many may remember the incinerator opposed by the Vale Council, but overruled by the Welsh Assembly Government.

I believe that it's crucial that the location of any gypsy site should be put in the hands of local people and that there should be no element of compulsion.

This is why I was opposed to the insistence that every council has to have one.

The decision-making is being passed to local people and communities in England and I hope that the new Welsh Assembly Government will reverse the old policy and follow the Westminster Parliament's plan.

Otherwise, we will be left with public meetings and protests; with WAG having the final say on whether a gypsy site will be located in your community.

As ever, if anyone wishes to get in touch with me to discuss the matter, please feel free to do so.

CHARITY QUIZ AT MOUNT SORREL

THE Barry committee of Cancer Research UK Cymru, is holding a quiz night on Wednesday, May 25, at Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry at 8pm.

Admission £2, payable at the door. Everyone welcome.

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Out and About with The GEM

ABBOT BRINGS THE MONKS BACK TO ST ILLTUD'S

THE second lecture relating to the Galilee Chapel Project at St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, was held on Thursday, March 31, when Dom Paul Stonham, Abbot of Belmont near Hereford, spoke on 'The Benedictines at Llantwit Major'.

St Benedict established his order at Monte Cassino, in Italy, in 529, a few years after St Illtud arrived in Llantwit Major. By the time the Normans arrived in England, about three dozen Benedictine houses had been established there.

Robert Fitzhamon, the conqueror of the Vale, re-founded an abbey at Tewkesbury in 1087, and after he established his manor here, he gave the living of St Illtud's, with its tithes, to Tewkesbury. He also gave the monks the land extending from the Ogney Brook to St Donats, known as Abbot's Llantwit.

This land was worked by the Benedictine monks and lay brothers from a large farm or grange situated on the hill above the church,



Mr Ian Colston, Dom Paul Stonham, Rev Huw Butler.

though there would not have been more than three monks here at any one time.

After the Dissolution of the Monasteries, Tewkesbury ceased to be an abbey after 1539. Here, Abbot's Llantwit was sold to Sir Edward Stradling of St Donats, and only the gatehouse and the dove cot remain.

There was a tithe barn in the Great Ley, but when tithes in kind were abolished in 1837, the building was gradually demolished.

The 19 Benedictine priorities were never particularly popular in Wales, and not one became large enough to form an abbey.

Most of their houses

were in towns, and a Welshman could not become a Benedictine monk! The Cistercians were more rustic and welcoming, and were accepted by the Welsh.

The next lecture in the series will take place on May 26, at 7.30pm at St Illtud's Church, when Dr Madeleine Gray of the University of Newport will talk on 'St Illtud's, the other Stones'. All are welcome to attend. Admission is free, but any donations towards the Galilee Chapel project would be most appreciated.

For further information visit: www.llantwit-major-parish.co.uk
Galilee Project Team

What's on and where in your local area?

Vale AM's surgery

NEWLY re-elected AM for the Vale, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery this Saturday, May 14, at 115, High Street, Barry, from 10am-12noon.

No appointment is necessary. For more information, contact the constituency office on 01446 740981.

Library talk
LOCAL author Cathy Farr will be in Cowbridge Library at 11am on Saturday, (May 14) to talk about her new book *Moonchase*, an adventure story for readers aged 10+, inspired by Finn, her Irish wolfhound.

This is a free event. For more information, contact Cowbridge Library on 01446

773941.

Spinning surgery

ON Saturday (May 14) at 10am-4pm, the Glamorgan Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers will hold a spinning wheel surgery and workshop with Joan Jones at the Scout Hall, Dinas Powys.

Llanmaes plant sale

THE annual plant sale at Llanmaes village hall takes place on Sunday, May 15, 11am-3pm.

A variety of bedding plants, hanging baskets, vegetable plants, annuals and perennials will be on sale.

There will be free advice from a local professional gardener, a hanging basket demonstration, a seed exchange and cream teams and

fresh Welsh cakes.

Dance group in show

FOLLOWING their debut at St David's Hall last year with Stan Stennett, the Changing Scene Dance Company will take part at Barry Memorial Hall on Friday, May 27 in One Night Only - An Ultimate Variety Spectacular.

The senior girls from Changing Scene have been invited to take part in the Tour.

The evening includes international escapologists and illusionists Daniel Hunt and Annette Clare, and West End star Sion Lloyd.

Changing Scene Dance Company will also be singing and dancing during the evening.

New Eisteddfod choir is looking for members

ONE of the highlights of every National Eisteddfod is the local choir concert and the Vale in 2012 will be no exception.

The first rehearsal will be held at the Tabernacle Chapel in King Square, Barry, on May 17 from 7pm-9pm.

You do not have to be able to read music to join.

The two choir masters will be Eleri Roberts from Cowbridge and Euros Rhys Evans from Rhooose.

The first appearance for the choir will be at the Gymnaffa Ganu during the proclamation weekend.

Come and join and have fun, sing, and make new friends!

UN o uchafwyntiau pob eisteddfod yr cyngerdd cor yw eisteddfod a fydd eisteddfod Bro Morgannwg ddim gwahanol.

Cynhelir yr ymarfer cyntaf yng nghapel Y Tabernacle 'Sgwar y Brenin yn y Barri ar Fai 17 eg o 7pm-9pm.

Does dim rhaid i chi allu darllen cerddoriaeth i ymuno ond mae'n rhaid i chi fyw'nau canu.

Y corffestri fydd Eleri Roberts o'r Bonfearn ag Euros Rhys Evans o'r Rhwoose.

Ymddangosiad cyntaf y cor fydd yn y Gymnaffa Ganu yn ystod y cyhoeddi. Ymunwch i gael hwyli, canu a gwneud ffrindiau newydd!

Choir concert

Cowbridge Male Voice Choir's 41st annual concert takes place in Cowbridge Leisure Centre this Saturday, May 14 at 7pm.

The choir will sing seven new pieces, along with old favourites, and will have as the guest soloist, baritone Gavin

Davies, who was born in Cardiff and has sung all over the world.

Tickets available at Sorrento, David Barnes Dry Cleaners, the Cowbridge Leisure Centre, Gwyneth J Morgan, Optometrist in Llantwit Major, or from the Charity Shop in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

Authors line up for the Cowbridge Book Festival

THE Cowbridge Book Festival was launched on May 6 and the following events will take place in the coming week:

Monday, May 16, 7.30pm-9pm - John Hartson: Please Don't Go - Big John's journey back to life.

Tuesday, May 17, 1pm-2pm - John Lewis-Stempel: The Wild Life - a fascinating insight into self-sufficiency; 2.30pm-3.30pm - Tim Dee: The Running Sky - a bird watching life; 7.30pm-8.30pm - Adam Hochschild: To End All Wars - how the First World War divided

Britain.

Wednesday, May 18, 7pm-8.30pm - MR Hall, Belinda Bauer, Katherine John: Crime writers discuss their latest books and 'How to Ratchet up the Tension!'

Thursday, May 19, 11.30am-12.30pm - Rhys Thomas: On the Third Day - a new literary voice; 1pm-2pm - Stevie Davies: Into Suez - epic historical novel

set in Egypt in the run-up to the Suez Crisis; 2.30pm-3.30pm - Jamie Owen (BBC Wales): Around Wales by B-roads and Byways - a fascinating journey, a celebration of Wales; 7.30pm-8.30pm - Jo Carnegie: Dirty Tricks - the temperature is rising and the countryside is getting hot.

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Inspirational Homes and Gardens

Creating a sea of calm with the magic of water

SOME tips on how to create a water feature in your garden plus, finding out what else needs doing in the garden this week.

by **HANNAH STEPHENSON**
Dipping my toes in the river near my home during the spell of warm weather made me reflect on how therapeutic water is in so many ways, whether just to cool off or to appreciate its movement and sound.

You can transfer some of those therapeutic qualities to your garden by creating a water feature, whether it's as simple as a wooden barrel with a waterproof lining and a single plant in it, or as elaborate as a large pond, which will not

only provide a focal point but will become a magnet for wildlife.

Whatever type of water feature you decide to install, positioning it is important in all but the smallest of features.

Ponds should be situated on an open site, with at least six hours of sunlight a day, away from trees so that you are less likely to come across tree roots when digging, and near a water source for easy topping up in summer.

Try to avoid placing the pond where there's a naturally high water table, as the pressure from below is likely to lift your liner, forcing the pond water out.

You can work out your natural water level by digging until you see water, but you're better off doing this in winter, as the water table will be higher then.

Leaves can be a terri-

ble hindrance to ponds, so don't place them under trees where the leaves are going fall into the pond in autumn.

Also, be aware that placing a large pond in full sun is going to encourage a build-up of algae.

If there's no other site, you'll have to plant large shrubs around it to cast shade over the water for some of the day.

Next, you need to select your liner. It can be either concrete, butyl or a pre-fabricated shell made of fibreglass or plastic. Concrete may be the most long-lasting but it is also likely to be the most expensive.

The cheapest pond option is probably a flexible butyl liner which can be used for any shape of pond you create and is particularly effective for informal ponds.

Dig the hole slightly

larger than the desired size of the pool, creating shelves as you go.

Remove sharp stones and roots and cover the base of the pond with a thick layer of soft sand which, if dampened, will help to keep it in place.

Alternatively, cover the base with sections of old carpet or protective underlay (available from good garden centres and aquatic specialists) to protect the liner from sharp objects.

Measure the maximum width, depth and length of your pond. The liner width should equal the pond's width plus twice the depth, plus 30cm (1ft) overhang.

Check that the surface is level using a spirit level placed on a plank the length of the pond.

Lay the liner loosely

over the hole and lightly anchored at the sides with weights. Start filling the pool slowly with

a hose, allowing the weight of water to gently drag the liner into the shape of the pool.

Fill the pond to within 5cm (2in) of the rim, then cut off the excess liner, leaving around 15cm (6in) overlap, which can be anchored with paving stones, turf or planting.

If you are using slabs, position them overlapping the pool by around 5cm (2in) which will create shade for the liner, protecting it from sunlight, which can cause it to deteriorate.

Many gardeners go for pre-made plastic or fibreglass shells in different shapes, which often have pre-formed shelves for aquatic plants.

Holes for these will

need to be dug carefully to almost exactly the same shape and size as the shell, or else when the pool is filled, the

weight will put uneven pressure on the unsupported areas and can cause fractures.

Whichever type you choose, they should be at least 60cm (24in) deep if you want to keep fish. To keep the water moving, which helps prevent it going stagnant, and create a soothing, bubbly sound or a small fountain or waterfall, you'll need a pump.

Small pumps are

available with fountain or waterfall kits, but all electric pumps should be used with a residual-current device (RCD) device. Consider access to your mains and always use a qualified electrician.

The best of the bunch – planting new flowers

ALPINE PHLOX

If you've graced your local garden centre recently, you'll have no doubt seen the plethora of alpine phlox available to brighten up rock gardens and cascade over walls, all in a range of colours from white to pink and purple.

If kept happy, they will go on for a few years before they need replacing, spreading their colour happily over rocks and stones.

Go for the ground-hugging evergreen *P subulata* 'Amazing Grace', which flowers

from late spring to early summer, producing pale pink flowers with deep pink eyes.

Grow it in well-drained but fertile soil in shingle beds, rock gardens and containers.

Good enough to eat...Dill

If you enjoy cooking fish, you shouldn't be without dill in your herb garden, as it's the perfect accompaniment to salmon and other fish.

Sow it in tubs or window boxes outside in late spring and if you sow successfully through to June, you will be harvesting a fresh crop of leaves into August.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE IN THE VALE?

Mr Les Keloway – 57 Colcot Road, Barry – Demolish existing single storey extension and replace with new single storey extension, build two storey extension and garage with canopy to front.

Ms Anna Cheney – 48a Eastgate, Cowbridge – Change of use from former Cowbridge Gallery to Childrens Play Centre (D2) with associated retail and cafe facility (A1). Minor demolition to brick-built sheds to rear of property.

Mr Andrew Caple – Meriholm, Cwm Drive, Dinas Powys – Reduce by no more than 1/3, 30 per cent crown of three Oak trees.

Lextan – 95 Holton Road, Barry – Retrospective application for change of use of retail unit to mixed use retail, hairdressing, beauty and tanning studio (approx 30 per cent of floor used for tanning studio) together with renewal of shop front.

Lextan – 95 Holton Road, Barry – Fascia sign and internally illuminated projecting sign. Mr Colin Williams – Martinsfield, Llandough – Proposed hay and straw storage. Mr Gethin Jarvis – Church Farm, Llansannor – Replacement calving and calf rearing building.

Mr and Mrs Brian Underhill – 15 Cedar Way, Penarth – Application for a detached bungalow for disabled use.

Mrs B Edwards – St Richard Gwyn RC School – Installation of photovoltaic solar panels to roof tops.

Mr and Mrs Dale Gooding – 29 St Johns Close, Cowbridge – Single storey rear extension.

Mr Martin Davies – 5 Geraints Way, Cowbridge – Extension to rear of property.

Mr Dennis Baker – 7 Caynham Avenue, Penarth – Single storey extension to rear of property, loft conversion

to allow for two new bedrooms and a shower room. New flat roof porch to front of the property.

S A Brain and Company Ltd – The Wenvee Arms, 18 Old Port Road, Wenvee – Alterations to the entrance lobby, extension to the rear and timber bollards to define seating within car park.

Mr Alan Mead – 18 Norris Close, Penarth – Removal of side porch and erection of single storey side extension to form utility area.

Vale Council – Vacant site, off Paget Road, Barry Island – Provision of Adizone outdoor sports and fitness facility.

Mr Anthony Wakefield – 19 Mounbatten Road, Barry – Erection of single storey side extension and first floor rear extension.

Mr Geoff Case – 162 Westward Rise, Barry – Proposed single storey utility room extension, car port, conservatory and garden alterations.

Mrs Pamela Dungey – 56 Marine Drive, Barry – Conversion of double garage to bedroom with en-suite and enclosure of porch and amended entrance access with ramp for disabled person.

Mrs Kath Bevan – 159 Holton Road, Barry – Change of use from office to two-bedroom flat.

Mr Roger Baker – 19 Park Avenue, Barry – Front and rear dormers to new habitable room.

Mr Ian Bullock – Long Acre, Sully Road, Penarth – Alterations to

facade and two storey side extension.

Mr Paul Wheaton – 12 Georgian Close, Llantwit Major – Single storey extension to rear to replace existing conservatory, enlarging kitchen diner. Two storey extension to side to provide a study/playroom, store area and extend upstairs bedrooms including an ensuite bathroom.

Mr Ian Enticott – 3 Devon Avenue, Barry – Single storey kitchen extension.

Mr Timothy Squires – Vale House, Llanbethery – Replacement conservatory with a garden room, conversion of garage at first floor level to form self contained habitable space and the creation of a connecting link between the dwelling and the garage to form a snug of the existing lounge.

Mr I Rees – 6 Cwrt y Iolo, Flemington – Rear single storey extension plus detached garden shed.

The Hub – YMCA, Court Road, Barry – Extension to the existing YMCA, housing a TV and audio recording studio, performance and rehearsal space, and offices.

Miss C Church – The Spinney, Twynyn, Dinas Powys – Ground floor rear extensions with replacement of existing fenestration.

Stepping Stones Care Services – West Hall, West Aberthaw – Retention of new conservatory.

Future Window Solutions

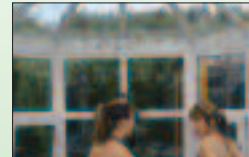
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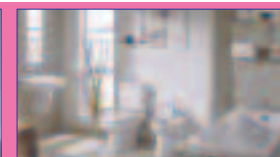
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'Florals endure because of their versatility'

WHAT'S HOT IN PATTERNS AND COLOUR SCHEMES?

EVEN if you haven't got green fingers, you can easily enjoy beautiful blooms by picking a bunch of the best flower-decorated fabrics, wallpapers and homeware. Choose from overblown florals, Eastern blossom and pretty prints, or just pick a petal or two!

Florals might be a perennial favourite for bringing colour and freshness to interiors, but don't assume you've seen it all before when it comes to this blooming style.

There are always tempting new interpretations being explored by designers and this year is no exception.

But remember our fondness for florals endures precisely because they never fail to give rooms a zingy lift, with their decorative evocation of nature.

Even treating a home to a simple scattering of flowery printed accessories – a cushion here and a throw there – will lift the spirits, especially at a time when we're all craving signs that spring has truly arrived.

"Floral designs have always been an integral part of the British interior, from the rich tapestries of the medieval nobility to today's pared-down patterns by designers such as Orla Kiely," says Lawrence Roullier White, founder of the interiors company of the same name.

"It's the stylised manner in which they are depicted that changes with the mood of the time. You only have to look at the austerity of floral designs in the 1940s and the subsequent over-blown blooms of the 1950s to chart this change."

He predicts that flower designs from previous decades are

by
GABRIELLE FAGAN

bursting onto the scene again: "Art Nouveau floral imagery from the 1900s became popular again in the 1970s, cladding many a Biba-babe, and even that 'no-no' of generic designs – chintz – had new life breathed into it by Cath Kidston," he points out.

"Now we're feeling more confident and optimistic, powerful Rococo designs with large, rich blooms are making a resurgence."

Clare Price, founder of interiors specialist, The Contemporary Home, shares the view that florals never fade, but acknowledges that for some, they're still an acquired taste, partly because they're wrongly associated with dated, fussy interiors.

"You either love florals or hate them, but be prepared to be surrounded by them this year!" she predicts.

"They endure because of their versatility, and their ability to conjure memories of childhood and a rose-tinted recollection of perfect country gardens."

"I think tiny, ditz prints are proving more popular because they're easier to mix with existing items in the home."

So think beyond the vase – there's enough flowery, decorative homeware around for a dazzling bouquet – without having to raid the garden.

MODERN FLORALS

This look works equally well for fans of romantic, feminine rooms as it does for those looking to use colour and pattern to soften cool, contemporary settings.

"Today's take on florals is all about creating a floral paradise which is both chic and modern," advises Anita Kaushal, stylist and interiors author.

"So instead of opting

for predictable pastel shades, consider bolder fuschias, bright greens and blues. Use a dramatic replication of one striking bloom in a fabric or a wall print, or feel free to contrast florals with other patterns such as bold stripes."

It's vital, she says, to allow the patterns to breathe by contrasting them with pale or neutral backgrounds, and to ensure a scheme has cohesion by picking out a few key shades in plain accessories, or other touches like a blind or curtains.

FUNKY FLORALS

Bright, zingy colours and abstract designs are a world away from the tranquil pastoral scenes of yesterday, but they're serving to make funky florals a sought-after style fit for on-trend decorists.

"A floral design is perfect for adding an injection of colour and fun to an otherwise fashionably neutral interior," says Lawrence Roullier White.

"Ideally, keep the scheme quite clean and plump for one statement piece, like an armchair or table, bursting with colour."

"As a general rule, if you want subtle, select a pattern with a small repeat, but if you want drama, the bigger the better."

"It doesn't even matter if the repeat is too big for the application. A cushion 'bleeding' off the edge looks fantastic."

TRADITIONAL FLORALS

Classic florals, whether conjuring a country retreat or those complementing period style, have long reigned supreme, but even they have been given a facelift to suit 21st century homes.

"The traditional mid-sized floral chintz is shaking off its image and has been replaced with new flower prints, which at the moment

are either small and intricate or large statement pieces," says designer Joanna Wood. Big, statement florals work well in sophisticated areas such as living rooms, dining rooms and master bedrooms.

"Choose where you want to create a statement within the room carefully, and select the fabric sparingly on one highlight area – a large three-seater sofa, a feature wall, or a pair of curtains."

"Prints are highly effective in strong colours, with orange, bold spring greens and pistachio featuring this year."

She advises flower-sprigged, smaller scale prints for smaller, cosy areas and children's rooms:

"Colours can be traditional – greens, pinks and sky blues – but modernise the look by mixing the same print in several colourways within a scheme."

Plants and water can help create a calm atmosphere

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

It does best in full sun and well-drained soil. Thin out overcrowded seedlings 10-15cm (4-6in) apart and water sparingly in dry spells, as the plants don't like wet conditions.

The leaves can be harvested as a cut-and-come-again crop as soon as the leaves are large enough.

Sow a new batch when you're about half way through the first harvest.

If you want the seeds, which can also be eaten, leave the crops to grow without taking many leaves off and you should have them by the end of the summer.

Good varieties include 'Tetra', which is a busy variety, perfect for leaves, while 'Mammoth' is grown for seeds.

Three ways to... Eradicate bindweed and other pernicious weeds

• If they are emerging

from under hedges and fences, set an unbroken plastic sheet barrier in a deep trench just in front of your fence line.

• Remove every leaf from every plant each week from March until October, which will result in the root systems becoming weak and dying away.

• Use systemic weed-killer such as glyphosate when they have developed a lot of foliage, painting the leaves carefully on a still, dry day and waiting a few days until the plant has ingested the formula.

WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

• Take cuttings from summer-flowering clematis.

• Plant dormant dahlia tubers and young plants.

• Remove faded flower-

ers from daffodils, hyacinths and tulips.

• Stake border plants as they grow.

• Feed seedlings which are growing poorly or have yellowing foliage.

• Move overwintered hardy annuals to their final flowering position.

• Sow late-flowering annuals directly into their flowering position.

• Continue to harden off summer bedding plants.

• Prune winter-flowering heathers.

• Thin gooseberry fruits, using the crop for cooking.

• Remove suckers on fruit trees.

• Cut lawns but keep the mower blades high.

• Continue with evening slug patrols, especially after rain.

• Keep weeding regularly.

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Inspirational Homes

Who wants to build what and where in the Vale?

Mr Kiall Spencer - 53 Amherst Crescent, Barry Island - Single storey extension providing lounge and dining areas.

Mr David Morgan - Tusker Coach House (rear of Tusker House), Ogbore by Sea - Proposed single storey extension.

Dunraven Estates

Company - Sealands Farm, St Brides Major - The erection of a new 24m long x 30.5 wide x 8.2m to ridge clear span steel portal frame multi-purpose farm building.

Mr Brian Rice - 34 West Farm Road, Ogbore by Sea - Proposed alterations to existing extension.

Mr and Mrs I Butcher -

27 Benecrofte, Rhoose - Single storey rear extension.

Mr and Mrs M Rees - Coach House Farm, Michaelston Le Pit - Proposed cattle housing parlour and dairy, plus machinery and feed store.

Mr J Davies - Glan Hafren, Sully Road - Supply and install a upvc conservatory.

Mr John Homfray - Llwynhelig Farm, Cowbridge - Installation of 20KW solar photovoltaic array on roof of barn/grain store.

Nathan Newman - 6 Hensol Villas, Hensol - Rear single storey domestic extension.

Lindstrand Aeroplatforms (Cardiff) Ltd - North West side of the Barrage, Cardiff Bay - Proposed installation and operation of Skyflyer tethered aerostat with viewing gondola and winch retrieval, construction of fixed sea platform with bridge walkway link thereto, together with resurrection and reconstruction of former tube to accommodate car, restaurant,

toilets, assembly area, ticket office and crew rest area on north west side of the barrage. Pugh's Garden Centre Ltd - Land south of Port Road - New access, parking area and internal pathways to serve proposed allotments.

Mr David Thomas - Land at New Barn forming part of Great House Farm adjacent to northern boundary of St Athan base - Change of use of former runway/roadway and adjacent land to use as a training base and site for training plant operators.

Mr Tom Bennett - 24 Clive Place, Penarth - Create a glazed extension to the rear annexe of a terraced house.

Mr Robert Mooney - The Garth, Cowbridge Road, St Nicholas - Alterations to garage.

Mr Sullivan - Pen y Maes, Ashby Road, Sully - New boundary wall adjacent to Ashby Road.

Dr Margaret Cobley - 31 Victoria Road, Penarth - Fell three Eucalyptus trees.

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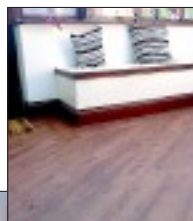
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NEWS IN AND OUT OF CLASS AT THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

MISS FORGES UNIQUE CULTURAL LINK BETWEEN WALES AND GHANA SCHOOL!



DURING February half-term, Barry Comprehensive School art teacher Helen McCormick visited Juaben Senior High School in Ghana.

The visit aimed to develop a strong working relationship between the schools in order to build a sustainable international link on multicultural education.

Ms McCormick shared knowledge about life in Wales and learnt about the diverse Ghanaian communities.

Identity and culture have long been embedded within the art department at Barry Comprehensive, celebrating cultural diversity through researching different cultures via books and the internet.

As a result of the visit, future Barry Comprehensive School global work will not just be a 'Google' searched topic, but will have been directly inspired by Ghanaian culture.

Ms McCormick said: "Working with the visual arts department in Juaben Senior High School has given me cultural knowledge and understanding that will have a direct impact on the art curriculum at Barry."

"Through observing art lessons, researching the education syllabus and visiting art and craft regions I could see how their education system was intrinsically linked to employment.

"Traditional arts and crafts, particularly textiles, are embedded throughout Ghanaian culture. I observed traditional art techniques and processes, which are taught in school, being used by crafts people in communal areas on the side of the road when walking through the dusty streets of the Ashanti region. I could clearly see how the practical lessons gave the students a clear career pathway.

"While visiting this region, I collected various examples of their arts and crafts to show pupils when I returned home.

"Examining artefacts brought back from Ghana, as well as explaining their cultural significance in relation to Ghanaian every day life will enrich pupils learning in Barry."

Throughout the trip, Ms McCormick followed a well planned itinerary, which included observing art lessons, teaching a ceramic lesson, attending meetings with governors and staff, visiting a primary school and exploring their local community, which was rich in culture and tradition.

Ms McCormick also delivered a presentation on Welsh culture. Interconnections were made between symbols used in Welsh love spoons, Celtic knots and Ghanaian Adinkra symbols, which will form the basis for future collaborative art projects.

The visual arts students have already completed one collaborative project with Barry Comprehensive students, by designing posters for a competition run by the charity 'Show Racism the Red Card'.

The work was exhibited on April 13 in Cardiff's Millennium Stadium during the 'Show Racism the Red Card' award ceremony.

The collaborative entry from the two schools won the classroom display category and Morgan Dowdall of Barry Comprehensive and Samuel Duah from Juaben Senior High School won the year-10+ poster design category.

The trip was a huge success and the beginnings of a very special partnership. Ms McCormick said: "I would like to Thank Juaben Senior High School for welcoming me into their lives. I felt very touched by their generosity and hope to continue working with them to improve both our schools and enrich our students' education. I hope to return in 2012," she added.

ANDREW CLISSETT

ABOVE: Ms. McCormick with Municipal Director of Education Garerias and staff.



Juaben Junior High School students proudly wearing their new football kit donated by Holton Road AFC.



Observing a leather works lesson.



The Head of PE receiving a donation of rugby balls - they hope to start playing soon.



Teaching Ceramics to the Visual Arts students

All-star panel puts Welsh rugby under scrutiny

WELSH rugby will be put under the spotlight by an all-star panel in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, next Thursday (May 19) at a fund-raising forum in aid of next year's National Eisteddfod at Llandow.

Welsh rugby team captain Matthew Rees and Jonathan Davies will join ex-Ireland international Simon Easterby, with co-hosts TV presenter Sarra Elgan and Welsh international referee Nigel Owens.

Matthew Rees from Tonyrefail, the Scarlets,

Wales and British Lions hooker was appointed captain of the Welsh side in place of the injured Ryan Jones against Australia at the Millennium Stadium on November 6, 2010. He retained the captaincy for the 2011 Six Nations Championship.

Rugby great turned TV pundit Jonathan Davies, represented his country in both union and rugby league.

Since 2004 he has hosted his own rugby-themed chat-show, *Jonathan*, on S4C, on the nights before international matches.

Simon Easterby from Harrogate, north Yorkshire, is an English-born Irish rugby union international who played for the Scarlets and is currently their defence coach.

Easterby is married to Sarra Elgan Rees, the daughter of ex-Welsh international Elgan Rees of Neath RFC and the British and Irish Lions. She is a rugby reporter for ESPN. The Easterbys, who live near Cowbridge, have two young children, Soffia and Ffredi.

Nigel Owens, of Mynyddcerrig, Llanelli, was the only Welsh referee at the Rugby World Cup in France.

In November 2008, he released his autobiography in

Welsh entitled '*Hanner Amser*' (Half Time), with the English version launched a year later.

Event organiser Siân-Elin Jones, (on behalf of the Welsh St Donats fund-raising committee), said: "The rugby forum promises to be a great night. The audience is free to pitch questions at the panel. "So if you want to know what's really wrong with the Welsh game, want to find out what is said at half time during internationals or simply just discover who has the best legs on the field, then you need to be there!"

During the evening, two special items will be auc-

tioned - a pair of rugby shirts signed by Leinster and Northampton, the two teams in the 2011 Heineken Cup Final being played in the Millennium Stadium on May 21; and a snooker cue signed by the 2011 Embassy World Snooker Championship players, including the winner John Higgins. Telephone bids, if pre-registered, can be made on the night.

Tickets, priced at £25 to include a curry supper, are available from Siân-Elin Jones on 01446 781129, or sianelin.j@.com.

Contact her also to pre-register for telephone bidding in the auction.

Town inspires First World war thriller

A new crime thriller which tells the story of a murder investigation set in the First World War uses the town of Barry as one of its backdrops.

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

The Dead of Mametz is the first fictional work by local historian Dr Jonathan Hicks, who is the headteacher at St Cyres Comprehensive School in Penarth.

The Battle of Mametz Wood took place in 1916 and Dr Hicks' hero Thomas Oscendale investigates the murders of two Welsh soldiers and a French woman.

Hicks is a Cornish name, which gave Dr Hicks the idea of how to create a family background for his investigator who hails from Barry. "The main character Oscendale is a Barry policeman prior to 1914. His family are of Cornish descent and would have arrived in the town in the 1880s to help with the building of the docks.

"Oscendale is a man who volunteered in 1914,

a single man disappointed in love, who is rather world weary, but always retains within his soul that optimism that the next bit of his life will be an improvement – a light at the end of the rainbow!

"Lots of the novel was helped by the research I had done for two books I wrote on the First World War."

Having researched the stories of hundreds of men from Barry and its surrounding area over the years, it was easy for Dr Hicks to embellish interesting facts with a fictional story whose denouement is the attack on Mametz Wood by three Welsh regiments in July 1916.

He read everything he could lay his hands on regarding that period of the First World War and even invited a fellow historian to proof read the manuscript to ensure authenticity: "You don't want someone wearing the wrong helmet or having a wrong piece of

equipment!" "However, I want to stress The Dead of Mametz is not a military novel, it is a crime thriller."

So where does Barry come in?

"Without giving too much of the plot away, the character has return to Barry to tie up some of the ends of the case."

Dr Hicks' love of history began as a pupil at Barry Comprehensive School.

"My interest in the subject goes back to a marvellous teacher I had at the school in the late sixties and early seventies called Brian Luxton.

"He was an inspirational history teacher, and what I liked about Brian was that he would always take time out from other periods of history to do a lesson on Barry."

Dr Hicks cites making history relevant through the 'local angle' as encouraging him to take A-levels followed by a joint degree in history and qualifying as a teacher.



Dr Jonathan Hicks.

His prolific output of articles, factual books and now a novel, is achieved at the same time as heading up a 1,450 pupil school, but something he attributes to a disciplined regime of early morning writing and the full use of holidays.

Thomas Oscendale's first adventure proves a success, Dr Hicks is hoping that a series of books might follow.

He added: "I can certainly see the character of Thomas Oscendale in settings before 1916 and after 1916."

The Dead of Mametz is having a special launch at Barry Library at midday on May 21. A war re-enactment event will take place in King Square, and Dr Hicks will be giving a talk on the background of the novel in the library.

READERS LETTERS EXTRA

Council should consult on gypsy-traveller sites

LETTER-WRITER Chris Short is right, the Cemetery Road site in Barry is totally unsuitable, as both a gypsy and a traveller site (The GEM, May 5).

How irresponsible of the Vale Council officials to ask if this site and others would be nominated as LDP sites (GEM, April 28). The need for the Vale Council to secure permanent and transit sites under the Housing Act was accepted by the cabinet two years ago, but the numbers they are working to are too low and out-of-date, as shown by the temporary traveller site at the Billybanks accepted by them.

That site for 'new age' travellers has

Remembering Gunner Webster

A SECOND World War Royal Artillery gunner from Ogmere Vale is among those to be remembered when a blue plaque is unveiled commemorating victims of a V2 rocket attack on the 'Crooked Billet' public house in Bromley, Kent.

Gunner William Gilbert Ronald Webster, aged 33, (son of John and Mary Webster) was killed either as a direct result of the explosion or in an attempt to rescue victims of the disaster.

Thornet Wood Gun Site, where Gunner Webster served, is today Jubilee Country Park, The Friends of this park,

who have researched its history, discovered that three soldiers from this gun site were killed at the 'Crooked Billet'.

In tribute to them and the other 24 people who lost their lives, the Friends have commissioned a memorial plaque, to be unveiled by Bob Stewart, MP, on Saturday May 21, 2011.

If you are related to Gunner Webster, or know anything about what happened to him, the Friends would be most interested to hear from you.

They can be contacted by email at jubileecountrypark@yahoo.co.uk, by phone on 07840-542261 or by writing to: **Jennie Randall, High Elms Country Park, Shire Lane, Farnborough, Kent, BR6 7JH.**

'Beware pool morons'

I READ in your columns of the proposal to revive the Barry Island tidal paddling pool, and whilst considering it a laudable idea in principle, let me add a few words of caution based on past experience.

When I was about eight years of age, while bathing in the old pool, I suffered a severe foot laceration, due to treading on a broken bottle thrown into the pool by some mindless moron.

Unfortunately, the genus mindless moron shows no sign of approaching extinction and should the project go ahead, unless some serious security arrangements are put in place, I foresee similar nasty accidents occurring in the future.

R C Thursby, Barry

PACT meetings

COURT PACT, Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry, today (May 12) at 7pm.

PENDOYLAN Community Council, Pendoylan School on May 12 at 7.45pm.

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, Llantwit Major Leisure Centre, May 17 at 7pm.

WENVOE Community Council, Wenvoe Community Hall, May 19 at 7.30pm.

GIBBONS DOWN PACT, Communities First Office, Aberaeron Close, Barry, May 21 at 2pm.

BARUC PACT public meeting, May 23, Barry Island Community Centre at 7.15pm.

DYFAN PACT public meeting, Barry Comprehensive School, Port Road, May 24 at 6pm.

CORNERSWELL PACT, Penarth Leisure Centre, May 12 at 7pm.

DINAS POWYS PACT public meeting, Bethesda Chapel, May 16 at 7pm.

PLYMOUTH PACT public meeting, Brockhill Way Community Centre, June 1 at 7pm.

STAGECOACH CHILDREN RIDE SHOTGUN ON THE POLICE SAFETY DVD

Stagecoach Bridgend and the Vale children at the DVD launch.



THE official launch of a South Wales Police DVD 'You Are The Key' took place at Police Headquarters, Bridgend attended by the Police Superintendent,

Mayor of Bridgend and various agencies and members of the community.

The main guests were Stagecoach Bridgend and the Vale children who performed so well and communicated the mes-

sage so brilliantly.

It is a film to be used within the local community and aimed at the older members of the Bridgend community. The film aims to reassure them that they are safer than perhaps they might think – and they should continue to

do the various sensible things that keep them safe – eg lock windows/doors, check callers ID, store valuables safely.

Stagecoach Principal Helene Reynolds said: "Deborah Edward from Safer Bridgend

Partnership (who initiated the film and oversaw production) and the director Gordon Main from Curlyman Productions, approached Stagecoach requesting children to star in the film.

"Sixteen children were chosen and did a brilliant job (as you'll see from the film). They took direction so well, with obvious confidence and skill, demonstrating such natural ability and personality." **HR**

Three call-outs for local lifeboat team

THE volunteer crew of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's Barry dock lifeboat were called into action last weekend.

The lifeboat was launched to three incidents. In the first incident, it was launched to the aid of a yacht which had engine difficulties to the west of Friars Point and had to be brought back to Barry.

In the second incident, the Barry Dock and Penarth lifeboats were launched to aid a yacht which was having difficulty in making headway

in the Rani area of the Bristol Channel.

Due to worsening weather conditions, assistance was given by placing lifeboat crew aboard the yacht and which was sailed back to Barry harbour.

The lifeboat was also launched to help a person using a sea kayak. The person, who was not local, got into difficulties because of the strong currents.

While under observation, the person managed to make it to the safety of the old harbour.

worked well for over 18 months, and the council withdrew court action for eviction. Now the Vale wants to complete sale of the land for private housing, so has to offer an alternative for up to 10 pitches, with additional transit places.

Rather than delay through the LDP (Local Development Plan) process, the council should consult with gypsy organisations on what types of site would be suitable.

As Chris Short says, they should minimise possible conflict by looking at land close to but not within existing housing areas.

Public authorities own land adjacent to Cosmeston Park and at the Atlantic Trading estate, while acres of nearby industrial land lie vacant.

Let's see the officers following good practice elsewhere and consulting with the Billybanks travellers and representatives of others on suitable sites.

Max Wallis Penarth.

(See Vale Council leader's column on page 19).

Rhodri a hard act to follow

NOW the Assembly elections are over, there will be one member not there, due to retirement, but who has done a fantastic job during his time as the First Minister for Wales.

I am talking about retired AM, Rhodri Morgan, who represented Cardiff West from 1987 until 2011 and can only be described as 'The father of devolution' for his commitment to the Welsh Assembly Government.

I think Rhodri is a fantastic socialist and was a great man for Wales. He certainly wasn't the choice of Tony Blair for the job of leading Wales, who imposed

Alun Michael MP on us

– but once there, he proved he was the right man for it and was the people's choice.

I have to admit I was really impressed by Rhodri's politics, especially when he distanced himself from New Labour in London and also said 'no' to foundation hospitals and competition in public services for us in Wales.

As First Minister and leader of Welsh Labour, Carwyn Jones certainly now has a hard act to follow and Rhodri Morgan will definitely be missed in the Senedd for his great wit and charisma.

Good luck and best wishes on your retirement, Rhodri!

Coun Richard Bertin, (Independent Member, Vale Council).

Roadworks report

TEMPORARY traffic controls: Thompson Street, Barry; A4050 Port Road East, Barry; Redlands Road, Penarth; A48 Cowbridge by pass.

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NEWS FROM BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Double West End show time for drama students



The students in Trafalgar Square alongside the Olympic clock.

LAST term, an intrepid crew of pupils and staff from the creative arts faculty set off from Barry Comprehensive School for an adventure in London's theatre land.

The group arrived in London at 1pm and began a whistlestop tour of some of London's top tourist attractions, with Buckingham Palace first stop.

Next, the group walked along the Mall to St James Park to be entertained by the tame squirrels before moving on to Trafalgar Square to look at the Olympic Countdown Clock.

Finally, it was onto Leicester Square, where some members of the group were lucky enough to see Simon

Cowell, Cheryl Cole and James Corden arriving for a Prince's Trust award ceremony.

Piccadilly Circus was the location of the day's first theatre where the group watched the award winning *The 39 Steps*.

After being treated to two hours of fast paced, laugh out loud theatre, the group set off for Covent Garden to eat and talk about the day so far, with every member of the group speaking very positively and no-one complaining about all the walking.

After lunch, the group proceeded to the second theatre to watch the multi award winning production of *The Woman in Black*.

The production aims to make the audience scream out loud, and some members of our group were hiding behind their coats!

When the show had finished, the group boarded the coach for our return home.

Many pupils had bought magic tricks from Covent Garden and were keen to try them out (all the way back to Barry).

It was an absolute pleasure spending the day in London with such a lovely group of people and we would like to thank all the parents involved for their support.

We really couldn't run these events without their help.

Paris trip for media studies students

FIFTEEN Barry sixth form media studies and principal learning in creative and media pupils recently attend-

ed a media conference held in the IMAX theatre in Disneyland, Paris.

The key speakers were *Times* correspondent David Aaronovitch, who provided a fascinating insight into the world of journalists working in conflict zones such as Afghanistan and Iraq; Stephen Cole, UK news anchor for Al Jazeera, who talked about the issues facing Al Jazeera in the current political climate; and Emily Fussell from the BBFC, who gave an interesting talk about the decision process involved in classifying films and games.

The three-day visit to Disney wouldn't have been complete without visiting the park itself, and everyone had a fantastic time immersed in the world of Disney.

AC

School celebrates as its three harpists take plaudits again



Nia Paddison-Rees.



The school's harpists who took first, second and third places.

YOUNG harpists from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg have repeated last year's success at the South Glamorgan Festival for Young Musicians – by securing first, second and third places in the junior harp competition.

This year, first place was awarded to Anwen Niamh Fardy aged 11, a grade 6 pupil who performed *Etude No.5* by Sor.

Second place went to Linnea Stenlund-Roderick performing 'Chaconne' by Clarke and third place to Elinor Parsons who performed 'Mountain Stream' by Skaila Kanga.

Other harp pupils from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg have also enjoyed recent successes.

Nia Paddison-Rees, winner of the SGFYM junior harp last year, won first prize in the Urdd Cardiff and Vale Eisteddfod.

Nia will now go forward to represent the school in the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Swansea.

Members of the school harp ensemble have recently performed at St David's Hall Cardiff and have also been invited to perform again at the Ewenny Youth Music Festival at Ewenny Priory on Thursday, June 23.

Samaritans and Mind bring a new support group to the Vale

BRIDGEND Samaritans and Mind in the Vale have joined forces to start a support group for people who have been bereaved by suicide.

The support group will be run by Bridgend Samaritans and the branch director, Anne, said: "We have started a group of this kind in Maesteg and wanted to look into providing this for the people in the Vale who sadly have been affected by suicide."

Mind in the Vale of Glamorgan, who support people experiencing mental distress and have three centres across the Vale, will be allowing the Samaritans support group to use their western Vale project as a base.

Menna Thomas, who is based at the western Vale project, commented "As an organisation, we have a strong ethos of working in partnership with other organisations to help individuals to get all the support they need."

"Due to its rural location, the western Vale is an area which can be isolating for some people. We are happy working in partnership with the Samaritans by offering them a suitable base for their group supporting people who have been bereaved by suicide."

The first session will be held on Thursday, May



Bridgend Samaritans director Anne (left) with Menna Thomas of Mind in the Vale.

26, at 7 pm-9 pm at Western Vale Mind, 29 Crawshay Drive, Llantwit Major, CF61 2LH. Further groups will be held on the last Thursday of each month.

For Samaritans, Anne said: "We already have a number of projects running alongside our 24/7 access support line."

"Our project, 'Feet on the street' which offers support to individuals every Saturday night in the town centre of Bridgend has been a great success."

She added that Bridgend Samaritans were keen to work on projects that reached out into the community.

For further information on Bridgend Samaritans contact 01656 662333, and for information on Mind in the Vale, contact 01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk

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MAY 14 marks the start of Adult Learners Week in Wales, with a host of events and activities taking place around the country to encourage people to give learning a go.

Taking the opportunity to learn something new or 'up-skilling' can really be a worthwhile investment, making you more attractive to potential employers, or more valuable to the one you already have.

Take some time to update your CV; look for any gaps in your training or qualifications and think about how you can back up your work experience with qualifications.

Whatever you have in mind, **Careers Wales is here to help.**

With centres across Wales, **Careers Wales provides free impartial information and advice and guidance about careers, courses and training, whatever your age or situation.**

You can get details about qualifications, opportunities to retrain, self employment, tips on writing a CV, completing application forms and improving your interview technique.

Call the **Careers Wales Learning and Careers Advice** helpline whether

you're unemployed, facing redundancy, thinking about your first job or a career change, or want to improve your prospects in your present job.

Whatever information or advice you need, advisers are able to help you plan your next step.

If you're under notice of redundancy, or have recently been made redundant, advisers can tell you about ReAct funding which may be available to help you update or learn new skills.

Call the **Learning and Careers Advice** helpline for further information on 0800 100 900, or 029 2090 6801 if calling from a mobile – standard mobile rates apply)

Lines are open between 9am and 9pm Monday – Friday and again on Saturday morning 9am-12noon.

Alternatively, email us your query at lca@careerswales.com

Advisers can also put you in touch with your local careers centre if you wish to make an appointment.

Andrew RT Davies AM

Welsh Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales Central



Twitter.com/AndrewRTDavies

Facebook.com/AndrewRTDaviesAM

If you would like to raise any issues with Andrew, please contact:

National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA
Phone: 02920 808523
Email: Andrew.RT.Davies@wales.gov.uk

www.andrewrtdavies.com



ASSASSIN RONAN EXCELS IN EMOTIVE ACTION THRILLER

SAOIRSE RONAN has developed an incredible career in just a few years.

Having made her bow in *Atonement*, and picking up an Academy Award nomination for her troubles, the actress has gone onto work with the esteemed likes of Peter Weir and Peter Jackson.

However, her latest film, *Hanna*, sees her reteam with *Atonement* director Joe Wright.

Ronan plays the titular Hanna, a 16-year-old

girl who lives in isolation with her father Erik (Eric Bana), a former CIA agent who is hiding Hanna from the authorities and who has trained her to fight.

However, when she decides that she wants to encounter civilisation, her journey means she must face up against Marissa Weigler, an agent who is on the trail of Hanna and her father...

Having achieved such acclaim with *Pride and Prejudice* and then *Atonement*, director Joe Wright could seemingly

do no wrong. One excursion stateside later, and an underwhelming response to his first 'Hollywood' film *The Soloist*, and Wright is less a man with something to prove, more a director keen to regain lost momentum.

It is a job well done for Wright in that case, as *Hanna* is a captivating and enthralling action-thriller that the director puts a fresh spin on to make it all the more satisfying.

There seem to be no lack of young girls willing to pick up weaponry and fight (Hit Girl in last year's *Kick Ass* for example) but this isn't an exploitative film that revels in a 16-year-old girl using guns and knives; instead Wright wrings emotion and depth from that, making this anything but a by-the-numbers outing.

Given the vitality he injected into his first two efforts, Wright's direction comes alive here, the director letting loose with a distinctive style that, coupled with a score by the Chemical Brothers, puts the emphasis on fast, hard action.

That isn't to say it comes without brains, as once the film settles in we learn more about the character of Hanna herself; a meeting with a middle class backpacking family offers valuable insight into the life

that she never had, whether it is attacking a boy who wants to kiss her or skinning rabbits for a family breakfast.

That the character is inhabited so forcefully by Saoirse Ronan helps immensely. The actress is nothing short of convincing as a little girl who can escape a government stronghold but has no grasp of television or music, the two elements of the character forming perfectly in the actress's pitch perfect performance.

Eric Bana is coolly understated as the father giving his daughter the life experience she requires rather than needs, and even gets some action heroics of his own, while the always superb Olivia Williams and Jessica Barden stand out in the family unknowingly sheltering a killing machine.

Only Cate Blanchett strikes something of a bum note, the pent-up performance never really convincing, while Tom Hollander's overly-camp Euro-hitman is perhaps an oddity ill required as the film starts to unravel just why Hanna is being pursued.

There is also a feeling of setting up further adventures for the character, with the film getting caught up in its own storytelling come the low-key climax.

But the overriding

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

feeling as the end credits roll is that of an actress delivering an absolutely mesmerising turn in a role that could have become all too much, and a director who has put the disappointment of past decisions to bed and has offered up an action-thriller that is fresh and exciting.

With both Ronan and Wright working so well it is no surprise that *Hanna* turns out as well as it does, the pair grounding what could have been something faintly ridiculous into something poignant and enthralling.

VERDICT: An action-thriller that delivers emotion with its hard-hitting action, *Hanna* is a success for both director Joe Wright, whose visuals are mesmerising, and actress Saoirse Ronan, who delivers an exquisite turn as the teenage assassin learning about real life; it is a heady mix that is never anything less than immensely watchable.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Bourne trilogy, The American, Salt.*

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS ROUND-UP

Strolling from Ystradowen to Coed Wern-fawr

RECENTLY, a group of seven walkers joined Rachel at Ystradowen, meaning Owen's Valley, in the Vale for a local walk on a lovely sunny spring morning.

They passed the parish church dedicated to St Owain, built in 1867 to replace an earlier 13th century building and which contains a magnificent bell presented in 1686 by Sir Leoline Jenkins, that was one of the first cast at the bell factory in Chepstow.

Crossing fields, they passed the 18th century Ash Hall built by the Deere family from Rhooose, before joining a country lane with a multitude of spring flowers on the banks and under the hedgerows.

The group entered fields which led them to the A4222 at Llwynynydd and following the busy road they eventually joined part of Valeways Millennium Heritage Trail to Talygar.

The large lake fed by springs and the Nant Dyfrigi brook was crossed by means of a footbridge to locate a pleasant spot for morning coffee, where the leader generously shared out chocolate bars for a late celebration of her birthday!

Refreshed, the group walked woodland paths covered with wild garlic through Oak Park and crossed fields adjacent to the M4 motorway before turning south to Pantaukasta.

A short journey along the road led them down a track to Bolgoed Farm.

The group had a bril-



liant view of the magnificent Talygar Manor, whose history goes back to the reign of Henry VIII when a house stood there.

In 1865, the present house, which was in a state of disrepair, was bought by George Thomas Clark and this distinguished scholar, engineer, ironmaster, historian and archaeologist took it upon himself to improve not only the buildings but the gardens.

Clark employed Venetian craftsmen to transform the interior of the house with carved panelling and staircases and painted ceilings. The gardens were landscaped and replanted with fine specimen trees which have become part of history.

Now the area is known as Talygar House and Country Park.

Returning in a circle to Talygar lake they headed for Keeper's Lodge, where a polite sign asked walkers not to cross fields for fear of disturbing cattle in calf; so instead, the group returned to the road and walked to Coed Wern-fawr, which is normally very damp having three streams running through the woodland.

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

GEM reader snaps youth street team



GEM reader Alan Preece reports that having spent the morning at Cold Knap, he was driving home and came across a multi-coloured bus parked adjacent to the Cold Knap skate park.

"Curiosity got the better of me and I went to have a look and found BMX riders, skateboarders, inline skaters and scooter riders all having a good time on the boards.

"I spoke to the leader of the Vale Youth Street team, who told me that the organisation aims to



tackle the issues of youth annoyance, community cohesion and young people's needs."

A workshop was followed by instruction jam sessions to determine the winners in each category.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D669.

● £2,000: 407877.
● The rollover, which now stands at £2,000, was not won this week.
● £10: 7 8 1 5 0 4, 984918, 323672, 553981, 267230, 569623, 272136, 110247, 233510, 459818, 114148, 156412, 757464, 582721, 365371, 412287, 827616, 137979, 866788, 672134.

● £5: 753659, 611717, 376438, 213209, 849051, 586993, 114845, 427605, 118619, 857841, 817907, 242480, 579783,

340015, 583059, 414481, 414427, 412402, 963794, 881318, 605983, 285720, 384355, 693894, 157509, 643101, 353545, 716898, 654110, 110877, 222904, 253751, 736826, 637459, 592731, 879650, 458687, 789653, 154712, 477466, 230571, 277544, 377955, 383800, 805690, 456686, 580275, 164120, 589790, 161539, 199556, 202977, 582530, 543469, 818702, 636999, 356014, 636576, 402025, 697753.

The files might be records of the children growing: before and after pictures of a garden rearrangement or sets of holiday snaps.

Rhona showed the process of getting organised. Naturally, the first thing is to decide how you want them grouped and folders titled.

For example, if you go to a different place for every holiday, you can have a folder named after each place.

If you go to the same place each year you could use a folder for each year. If you pursue different hobbies you might want a folder for each hobby.

Folders are building block of organisation

FOLDERS are a fundamental means of organising files into manageable groups. This makes them easier to find without ploughing through long lists.

One way of solving the problem, of course, is to keep few files. Then you have no problem finding the ones you want.

If it works for you, that's fine, but most folk have hundreds, perhaps thousands, of files that they want to keep.

The files might be records of the children growing: before and after pictures of a garden rearrangement or sets of holiday snaps.

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For example, if you go to a different place for every holiday, you can have a folder named after each place.

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Folders are usually

PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB NEWS

nested. A single My Documents folder would have folders within it for My Music, My Letters, and My Pictures.

My Pictures can contain folders for holidays, hobbies, home, family or friends, each of which in turn can have its own set of sub-folders for whatever further division you choose. And you can have more levels and divisions if you wish (avoid going beyond six or seven levels.)

To illustrate the process, Rhona put an assortment of pictures on the desktop and sorted them into folders using 'drag and drop. See hints and tips on our website www.penarthcomputerclub.co.uk for best ways to make selections and more about drag and drop.

Create the desired new folder(s) by right-clicking on the desktop and selecting New Folder from the pop-up menu. Right-click on the new folder and select rename and give it a meaningful name.

Now it is a simple matter of dragging and

dropping the files onto the new folder's icon and they will be put into the folder for you.

You do not have to use the desktop of course. The same exercise can be carried out between drives and between drives by opening windows to do it.

To make the sorting process safer make sure everything is backed up before you start!

To cut down significantly on the effort required, see the hints and tips referred to above.

Note that if you drag and drop between folders you MOVE the file, but if you do it between drives the files are COPIED instead.

Identical file names are OK in different folders, but not in the same folder.

When transferring files you will be asked if you want to overwrite, so read the message to be sure what you want. You might have to adjust the file names.

We next meet on Tuesday, May 10 at All Saints Lesser Hall at 7.30pm for 8pm, making use of auto-correction and more about keyboard shortcuts. Visitors welcome. Enquiries to me on 02920 708439. HD

Ladies night for school funds

ON Friday, May 20, in the Parish Hall, Dinas Powys Infants School Parents' Association is holding a Ladies Night as a fundraiser for the school at 7.30pm.

A £3 ticket will give free entry into a special prize draw, and there will be stalls, a licensed bar, and lots of opportunities to taste, try and buy a variety of things.

Tickets are available from 'A Class Apart' (next to Spar), by ringing Sara on 0784101609, or from the school.

Unique theatre

WHILE undergoing treatment for breast cancer, western medicine and words, were not enough for Deborah Barber-Jones - a wholesome recovery demanded more.

She says she turned to metaphor and mythology, to sketches etched in her journal, to needlework, to music and to dance (when energy permitted), that she might tend to her soul while medicine treated her body.

Descent/Ascent, a mytho-metaphoric performance piece is the result.

Deborah's journey through treatment interweaves with that of

Inanna, an ancient Sumerian goddess, and her descent into and ascension from the underworld.

Duck's Foot Theatre will present the Creation Heals performance on Saturday, May 28 at 7.30pm in the Minstrel Room of Cowbridge's Little Shop of Calm, chosen because Deborah trained in drama and movement in a therapeutic context through the Sesame Institute's Psyche and Soma course.

Performers Andrea Beed, Leila Chebbi and Peter Brian Jones all worked under the direction of Ms Barber in the 2007 production of *The Beautiful Life*.

Barry's own William and Cathryn get 'married'

REGULARS at the Three Bells Inn in Barry held their own 'royal' wedding for William and Cathryn on April 29 – local couple Bill and Cathryn Conibeer.

Bill and Cathryn were re-enacting their own wedding day, which took place at Cardiff Registry Office on August 4, 1988.

Family friend Mike Loveless said: "There were about 60 regulars who attended throughout what was a fun day."

"It started at 5pm and ended at midnight – and was our version of a

street party."

The bride was given away by family friend Gareth Bennett and arrived in a wedding car accompanied by her two bridesmaids Nichola and Rebecca Mills.

The ceremony was conducted humorously by pub regular and 'vicar for the day' the unofficial Reverend Johan Britton.

The happy couple then invited their guests to join them inside for a buffet-style evening meal.

Bill works as a postman in Cadoston, while Cath works at William Hill on Barry Road in the town.



ABOVE: Time to cut the cake.

'Wiggy' stars on Bro Radio



BRO RADIO has welcomed popular **Real Radio Wales** presenter **Steve 'Wiggy' Wiggins** to its breakfast show for this week.

Station manager, **Steve Powell** said: "I'm proud to have Steve on board. He can make great radio for us and pass on his experience and knowledge to our presenters."

"He's an amazingly popular presenter with lots of dedicated listeners".

The station hopes Steve will become a familiar voice on Bro Radio in the future.

Time to put the record straight on local issues

I HAVE read with interest in recent days the considerable correspondence suggesting that the council is looking to set aside land at Cemetery Road, Barry for use as a gypsy and traveller site, and I feel we need to set the record straight.

The background to this story is that the council has a legal duty, set down by the Welsh Assembly Government, to provide sites for gypsies and travellers in the Vale of Glamorgan.

As part of ongoing work on the Local Development Plan (LDP), the Vale Council has written to all individuals and organisations that have put forward proposals for land, asking whether they consider that their proposed sites would be appropriate as a traveller site.

I want to make it clear that this is an initial investigation with the aim of setting up a database of sites, which will then need further consideration by the council.

No decisions have been made as to which, if indeed any, of the sites that come forward will be appropriate and this will be a matter for further assessment and wide consultation as part of the ongoing work on the LDP.

JOB EVALUATION

Lately there has also been media coverage regarding the recent job evaluation undertaken at the council. Jobs were evaluated to bring posts onto one pay scale to produce a single pay structure based on the principle of equal pay for equal work.

The need to undertake the



FOLLOW THE LEADER

by Councillor **GORDON KEMP**, Leader of the Vale Council

review was part of a national agreement which affects all local authorities.

There have been a number of incorrect claims about the process and specifically that only low paid staff would have been adversely affected.

The reality is that more than 80 per cent of our lower paid staff would be either better off or no worse off if the proposals had been accepted.

The proposals were not part of a cost-cutting exercise and, indeed, would have represented a significant investment for the council. The council remains committed to delivering an 'equal pay proofed' pay structure and working with staff and unions to achieve this.

Chief officers, who are a very small minority at the Vale, are not subject to job evaluation as they are not on the officer/staff

pay scales and not subject to the national agreement.

TENANTS' BALLOT

VALE of Glamorgan Council tenants recently voted against their homes being transferred to the control of a housing association.

In a secret ballot of tenants in which 68.4 per cent voted (3,245), 49.2 per cent supported the transfer and 50.8 per cent were opposed.

The council felt it was very important that tenants were given the chance to decide the future of their homes.

The tenants have spoken and the council will now start the hard work of improving Vale council housing.

This will include internal improvements where required, such as modern kitchens and bathrooms, upgrading heating systems and insulation and fitting double glazed windows where necessary.

The external works will ensure that the properties are wind and waterproof.

If the housing had been transferred to a registered social housing landlord, such as a housing association, millions of extra pounds would have been available to invest in our estates.

Unfortunately, this extra investment will now not come to the Vale, as councils do not have access to the same levels of funding that are on offer to housing associations.

However, we will do everything we can to improve the standard of council housing in the Vale, in partnership with our tenants.

Search for a green VW Golf after collision

POLICE in Barry are investigating what they describe as a "disturbing" incident in which a car was in a collision with a pedestrian and continued on its journey.

The incident took place along Dobbins Road at 5.30pm on April 28 and involved a male pedestrian and, it is believed, a metallic green VW Golf.

The police say the man was struck on the side and knocked to the floor by the car, which did not stop and continued along the street.

PC Sara Voss, of Barry police, said: "We are appealing for any information concerning

this disturbing incident.

"The vehicle has been described by a witness as possibly a metallic green VW Golf and driven by a young male driver of around 20 years old."

"The vehicle appeared to be travelling at speed and failed to stop."

"If anyone witnessed this incident or has any knowledge of what happened, please contact us."

The pedestrian received minor injuries and received treatment from a paramedic at his home address.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact PC Sara Voss at Barry police station on 101 or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Local woman's funeral

THE funeral of Mrs Bette Morgan of Ogmere-by-Sea takes place tomorrow, Friday, May 13, at Coychurch Crematorium.

The service will commence at 2.15pm. Mrs Morgan of Sea View Drive died on May 4 following a sudden illness.

Cowbridge gets 'hippest' accolade

COWBRIDGE High Street has been nominated as one of the 'hippest' streets in the UK, in a competition run by Google Street View.

The world-wide internet giant attracted considerable publicity when it sent out cars equipped with cameras to photograph every street in the UK, and the Google Street View awards are one spin-off.

Cowbridge High Street owes its nomination in the 'hippest' cate-

gory to Grace Woodward, who is best known for her work as a fashion stylist on the X-Factor and she spoke of its "amazing boutiques and wedding shops as well as its gorgeous townhouses and the Bear Hotel".

There are 20 nominations for the award, and Cowbridge faces Welsh competition from Mill Lane in Cardiff.

The other 18 nominations include streets representing most of the big cities in the UK, including London, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Bristol and Manchester.

Library closures prompt heated Llantwit debate

LLANTWIT MAJOR WI NEWS

AT the Llantwit Major WI meeting on May 5, there were two resolutions to think about, both producing lively discussions.

The first one, about the proposed closure of libraries in various parts of the country because of the financial situation, had speakers both for and against.

Members had obviously given a lot of thought to the subject. The vote for the proposal to urge the Government to support local libraries as essential educational and information resources was overwhelming.

The second resolution urging the Government to ensure that planning permission is not given

for mega farms, also produced heated discussion. One member felt unable to come to a decision; there were none against and the resolution was supported.

The resolutions will now go forward to the National Federation of Women's Institutes AGM in Liverpool on June 8.

The competition for a flower arrangement in an egg cup was won by Julia Jenking and the bloom of the month by May Davies.

At the next meeting on June 2, the speaker will be Sheila Lowe, talking about Dylan Thomas and her time as a guide at his boat-house.

CEREMONY TAKES PLACE FOR NEW BARRY MAYOR

THE new Mayor of Barry Town Council, Coun Bronwen Brooks, was officially installed at a ceremony on Monday, May 9.

The charities she has chosen to support throughout her term of office are Valeplus on High Street, Barry, which provides support to adults with learning disabilities, and the John Rowley Hostel on Court Road, Barry.

The hostel is part of Llamau and provides accommodation and support for homeless young people aged from 16-19 years-old.

Councillor Brooks' consort will be Mrs Kandi Elmore.

The Deputy Mayor is Coun Maggie Payne and her consort is Coun Olga Cash.

The new mayor, said: "It is my intention to undertake my role in representing the people of Barry at various events throughout the year, and I will endeavour to promote the prestige of our town at every opportunity."



ABOVE: The new mayor of Barry Town Council, Bronwen Brooks (centre) pictured with deputy mayor, Coun Maggie Payne. Picture by Philip Davies Photography

History society's AGM will be held at Rhoose

THE Rhoose and District History Society will hold its annual general meeting on Friday, May 27, in Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road, at 6.30pm.

Afterwards, Mr Ron Powell will give a talk to the society on the Charge of the Light Brigade (at approximately 7.30pm).

Most officers have indicated their willingness to continue in office, although the secretary, Mrs Brenda Roe, will be standing down.

"As well as looking for a new sec-

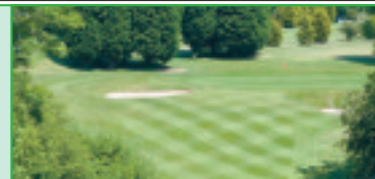
retary, two new positions have been created and we are seeking an events secretary and an honorary archivist.

If anyone is interested in these vacancies, please let me know," said Coun Jeff James, chairman of the society.

"It has been a successful year, with a speaker programme and an excellent visit to Ffnon Castle. We need to progress the work of the society and the two new officers hold the key to developing its expanding role."



Brynhill – where Barry meets the Vale and offers the best of Golf



How a local club matches tradition with ambition for a fine golfing experience

THE great thing about golf courses is that they constantly evolve – and in its 90 years of existence,

Brynhill Golf Club in Barry has done quite a bit of that.

As with so many clubs that are owned by their members, every few years the committee will devise improve-

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

ments and plan for the future.

Sometimes, those plans are very long term – planting trees that will grow to maturity in 15–20 years, while some may have an immediate effect – a new bunker that changes the way you play the hole, or a change to the undulations on a green.

Some alterations are driven by new technology – the fact that modern golf clubs hit the ball further (although the professionals seem to get a lot more out of them the amateurs!).

Brynhill reacted to that trend by lengthening the course, and as someone who used to play golf in the 1970s and 80s, I was quite surprised to find that the course now measures more than 6,500 yards – with three par fives of more than 500 yards, including the 18th, which is a real test at 565-yards.

Among the striking holes on the course are two challenging par threes. The ninth is only 152 yards, but is a real test of nerve as the target is a small saucer-shaped green.

The 16th is probably the club's 'signature hole' and has been compared to the 14th at Wentworth – 168 yards uphill to a two-tier

green. It was also obvious to me that the course, which was always notable for its rolling countryside that stretched out into the Vale, has been enhanced by the now-mature trees that line many of the fairways.

It means that after 90 years of refinement and adjustment, Brynhill is firmly established on the south Wales golf circuit – providing a test for the low handicapper – without being too severe on the high handicapper.

This year's club captain is Steve Jones, and he is proud to add captaining his golf club to another sporting honour on his CV – captaining Barry RFC, where he played at No 8 and second row.

As he showed me around the clubhouse, it



ABOVE: Just one of the trophy cabinets at Brynhill Golf Club.

was obvious that the history of the club is close to his heart.

Past captains look down from the wall, while the honours board records that the first club champion was decided in 1925.

Look around and there are other well-

known faces on the walls, because in the 1980s and 90s under the influence of youth leader John Collins, the club produced a string of Welsh international players, several of whom went on to turn professional.

The best, of course, was Steven Dodd, who became British Amateur Champion in 1988 – which meant that the young Barry golfer was invited to play at Augusta National in the Masters the following year.

After that he turned pro and, if you add up his career earnings, he must surely be Barry's most successful sportsman.

The junior programme that produced all those internationals is now being continued by Gareth McPherson, a local teacher who is looking after a group of 55 at the moment, and Brynhill is keen to add to this number.

Steve Jones showed me the junior locker room, which has just been refurbished to provide a relaxing place to wait if the weather turns bad.

The club's trophy room only emphasises the long history of golf in Barry, and the lounge can be opened up to make a large function room – a popular facility that the club often makes available to outside groups.

The club professional, Duncan Prior, also runs a series of coaching sessions for the juniors on Saturdays (9am–10am) and Tuesdays and Thursdays (4pm–5pm) – giving them the chance to benefit from his years of experience in teaching the game.

Duncan has been the professional at Brynhill for eight years, and was head pro at Glynhir for seven years before that.

The club where he first became PGA quali-

fied was Stoke Poges. He has continued with his career development, and is now PGA qualified at level three.

Teaching takes up quite a bit of his time (he charges £25 for a 40-minute lesson, with a 'six for the price of five' special offer), but he still plays the local alliances and a few years ago tore around the Gower Golf Club in just 64!

His latest innovation is a custom built club-making service, and to

this end he has invested in a number of high-tech gadgets.

Visit Duncan and he can measure your swing speed so that the right shaft and swing weight can be fitted, ensure that the grips are the correct thickness for your hand size, and measure you up so that the clubs are the best length, and have the correct loft and lie.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

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ABOVE: Club professional Duncan Prior checks Steve Jones' grip is fit for purpose!

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Brynhill Golf Club – where “a good walk is never spoiled!”



Barry course offers challenging golf and a warm welcome for all!

(CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 20)

Golfers have a history of wandering into a shop, being seduced by the colour or design of a set of clubs, and heading out on the course with something totally unsuitable.

Duncan's bespoke service can stop golfers wasting their money on equipment that will never work for them!

His partner in this is a club member, John Griffiths, an engineer who took up the game and became fascinated by the mechanics of golf. That is quite common, but John took it several steps further and enrolled on a club-making course!

Now, he is fully qualified to make up a set of clubs from scratch, once Duncan has given him the specifications!

Golf enjoyed a boom in the 1970s and 80s, with established clubs having long waiting lists, and a number of new clubs being built to satisfy demand, but it is fair to say that the current economic outlook has meant that clubs now have to work much harder to build their own customer base.

Brynhill has dispensed with a joining fee, and has an annual subscription of £400 – very good value for a fine course that is playable all year round.

It also offers a great deal for visiting groups, with a £60 for a four-ball offer, or £80 for the same four, but with two buggies included!

The club also has a number of attractive deals for visiting societies, and

it has a reputation for good food as well.

Nowadays, quite a number of golfers have given up belonging to a club, choosing instead to wander from course to course taking advantage of special offers.

It is tempting on the surface, but I doubt if it is good for their golf, because a key part of the game is in constantly testing yourself against your own expectations.

It is about standing on the tee of a par five, checking the wind direction and thinking that today, with two good shots, you could get up in two!

Alternatively, it is about standing over a shot that you messed up last week, and holding things together and conquering those negative thoughts.

Ultimately, it is about walking off the 18th on your home course with the best score you have ever done – and feeling that this week it will be you who takes the monthly medal!

Opt for the nomadic life of a golfer who plays a series of courses but never gets to know one well, and you miss out on that buzz.

There is something about belonging to a golf club – the rivalry and camaraderie, the sense of history, the chance to measure your progress week by week – that is special.

Brynhill has been part of that elite group of south Wales golf clubs for 90 years, and there has never been a better time to enjoy what it has to offer!



ABOVE: Duncan Prior's know-how and John Griffiths' engineering skills will make a 'bespoke' set of clubs for any golfer!

BELOW:

Club captain Steve Jones on the clubhouse terrace which overlooks the 18th green.



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Scouts' promise renewal parade at Porthkerry

TWO Sea Scout groups from Barry recently took part in a promise-renewal parade and ceremony at Porthkerry

Country Park before Scouting dignitaries, family and friends.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts from the 6th Barry Sea Scout Group and 11th Barry Sea Scout Group were joined by adult leaders in a parade led by Mr Huw Adams, through the park to the parade

field where colours were presented, the flag ceremony carried out, and the renewal of the Scout promise made, along with several presentations.

Tony Adams, a lay preacher and former Scout, related memories of Scouting in days gone by, as well as providing the blessing.

For more information about the Scout groups, visit www.11thbarryscoouts.org g.uk or call 07714 216750 or 07929 372937.

What's On and Where?

Seafood festival

FROM May 16-22, Loch Fyne restaurant in Cowbridge is hosting its 2011 Seafood Festival, which will help to raise funds for a new RNLI lifeboat.

"Kids Eat Free" is one of the promotions running at the restaurant. There will be a Spanish night, charity dinner, jazz evening featuring local singer Clare Hingott, and a special shellfish day.

Age Concern spring fayre

AGE Concern Barry is holding a spring fayre on Monday, May 23, at the Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry, on June 3 at 7pm.

Vale AM Jane Hutt will open the event and admission is free. There will be a wide range of stalls with bargains for

all. All proceeds are for the benefit of Age Concern Barry.

Further information on 01446 732385.

Tax advice

TAX Help for Older People will hold an advice surgery at Pencoed Library on Thursday, June 2.

To book an appointment or to access the help line, telephone 0845 6013321.

Community AGM

THE annual general meeting of the St Nicholas (Barry) Community Association will be held in St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry, on June 3 at 7pm.

Residents of the Baruc and Illyd wards and members of organisations using the hall are welcome to attend.

News from the Miri Mieri garden

THE Llantwit Major Town Council's decision on water-butts has to wait until July, when they review our permission to use the site.

Meanwhile, we would be glad if everyone using the garden could bring some water for the plants please, if the weather is dry.

We were so glad to have some rain on the Miri Mieri garden (near Llantwit Hall) last weekend.

Unfortunately, it was too wet to sow sunflowers – but well done to all the folks who made it to Annie's house instead for a bit of a squash and queue in the covered area, plus a little pond-dipping and chicken-stroking between showers – and how lovely to kick-start all those sunflower seeds into life! There will be a ses-

sion at Miri Mieri garden on Saturday, May 21, 10.30am – 12.30pm, with another chance to sow sunflowers, if you missed last Saturday's session, and we still have lots of other seeds to sow in the beds (or in pots to take home).

Anyone who would like to come along would be very welcome.

If the weather is inclement, telephone 796849 or 07804 624795 to check for a change of venue.

If this time or day is inconvenient, but you would like to come, we'll try to arrange other times to suit.

Please note that children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Old clothes recommended.

Miri Mieri is a Transition Llantwit project.

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WITH the holiday season looming, now is the time to make sure that any vehicles and equipment are in good working order before heading off for your break.

A full service of your car or motor home is a necessity

before you set off. The last thing you want to experience is a crisis on the road, due to lack of preparation.

A garage will make sure that your tyres are legal and properly inflated for hot conditions, and that you are properly topped up with oil and water.

The mechanics will

also ensure that your air conditioning system is working properly to combat rising temperatures.

If you have a tow bar on your car or 4x4 you should have it checked out on a regular basis.

It is also an opportune moment – after the rigours of winter – to have a car or caravan valeted for the summer ahead.

Don't forget to make sure that your mobile or static caravan is kitted out with any accessories such as fire safety equipment, storage boxes or electrical spares.

Nowadays the holiday industry is far more sophisticated than years ago, so bear in mind there are many styles of roof racks for trans-



porting luggage or equipment, and even stylish roof boxes which keeps camping gear or sporting equipment neatly stored.

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Help is at hand for UK holidaymakers

In the last couple of years, foreign holidays have become less attractive due to the spiralling cost of air travel, which has inspired a big comeback for the British break.

Camping and caravanning are big features of the holiday scene in Wales, England and Scotland and there are a quite a number of advantages if people choose to take a holiday closer to home.

In terms of practical living (such as in a mobile or fixed caravan) everything is so

much more sophisticated and reliable than it used to be.

The days of leaky tents are long gone (unless you happen to enjoy that!)

Once an initial investment has been made, families are able to take a number of breaks throughout the summer season, and the more taken, the more economic it

becomes!

There are garages that will advise on use of vehicles, and can help with the supply of equipment either for accommodation or leisure.

Another useful thing about holidaying at home, of course, is that there will be no language barrier when you turn to a local for advice!

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Book tells how war affected the village life in Wenvoe



A NEW publication covering aspects of war that have affected the village of Wenvoe, concentrates on World War II, drawing on the memories of who lived there in those turbulent yet exciting times.

Wenvoe, in common with most villages throughout the country, has a memorial to this conflict, and like the vast majority it is a continuation of the memorial set up for the Great War, or World War I.

However, Wenvoe's is relatively unique in that it also records, the names of all those who served in the armed forces during World War I, as well as those who died in both World Wars.

It also differs from the usual village war memorial in that it is an upright monolithic stone, supported by smaller stones.

Quarried locally and roughly hewn, it is in complete contrast to the usual 'war spirit' memorial depicting a soldier in battle dress.

One World War I serviceman, whose name is recorded on the memorial, was Hubert James Williams of Burdons Hill in Wenvoe.

He enlisted in the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) during World War I. His occupation is given as a steam lorry driver and it is believed he served in that capacity delivering war supplies for the RNAS in France.

During the Second World War, he joined the

Home Guard. As someone who served in World War I, his name is carved on the memorial in Wenvoe and can be found on one of the lower circle of stones.

How the war affected every day life in Wenvoe has been recorded by individuals, based on their memories of events which bring back those wartime connections to the village. Public buildings played their part, such as the village hall, the Wenvoe Arms and the cattle creep tunnel under the Port Road, which served as an air raid shelter and was frequently used by the school children during air raids.

There are also brief insights into the lives of servicemen from Wenvoe recalled by family members such as Bledwyn Llewellyn Morgan, a glider pilot at Arnhem, and Harold Jones of the RAF, whose Wellington bomber was shot down in 1942 and is one of the three names recorded on the war memorial who fell in World War II.

With the outbreak of World War II, the first related activity occurred at Wenvoe Castle, the fields around the golf course becoming a temporary camp following Dunkirk in May 1940.

John Edwards was a private in the Royal Army Service Corps, who like many of his fellow soldiers, was part of the retreat to the French coast.

He recalls how he managed to get onboard a ship at St. Malo and found himself at Wenvoe. His brother in law (who lived in

Wenvoe at War: Compiled by Gwenfô Gynt – the Wenvoe History Group, 2010. ISBN 0-9539231-1-8.



Newport) managed to find him there and confirm that he had survived.

Part of the golf course at Wenvoe Castle, the back nine holes, was ploughed up for cereal production and the clubhouse housed the Wenvoe detachment of the Home Guard.

To the east of Wenvoe and close to the site of the television mast, a peace time airfield known as Wenvoe Aerodrome, provided a placement for searchlights during the war.

This was part of the anti-aircraft defence based on gun and rocket batteries situated at Ely racecourse.

The defensive shield also included barrage balloons with a hangar at Ely, a military facility named RAF Llandaff which would also be engaged in the repair of aircraft engines.

Other anti-aircraft guns were located at the site of Tesco's Barry site and in the village itself as already mentioned.

As well as the defence of real targets there were also decoy targets, one of which was built at Michaelston-le-Pit. This was one of Colonel Turner's bombing decoy sites, officially designated 'Q sites' (after the

Royal Navy's 'Q ships'), but the large fire decoys would be christened 'Starfish'.

Built in the open fields near Cwrt-yr-Ala House, this Starfish was designed to resemble the lights of built up Cardiff at night to enemy aircraft, drawing away bombs from the city and its docks that now fell in empty fields.

On one night it was believed that 150 tons of bombs intended for Cardiff were released over the decoy site.

When the Americans entered the war, Barry became an important port for the US Transportation Corps, while away from the docks, accommodation for Field Artillery Battalions, complete with airstrips, would be established at Brynhill and at Wenvoe.

One of the temporary camps at Wenvoe Castle, renamed Wenvoe Camp Airstrip, was used for the Piper Cub air observation aircraft, landing and taking off on the flatter area to the west of the camp.

Another golf club, this time Brynhill, would also provide accommodation with tents and more permanent buildings such as Nissen huts, one of which still sur-



ABOVE:
Hubert James Williams in his Royal Naval Air Service uniform during the First World War.

vives today as a supply store for the golf club. The bulk of the US forces based here would leave, via Swansea docks, to land on Omaha Easy beach on June 7, 1944.

To ensure secrecy in the run up to D Day, Barry Island was closed for a week as the convoys were assembled in the British Channel.

With the departure of the Americans for Omaha Easy beach on the June 7, 1944, the temporary camps would be used to house prisoners of war.

In 1945, Wenvoe celebrated Victory in Europe Day, VE Day, on May 8 and Victory over Japan Day VJ Day, on August 15.

Wenvoe was no longer at war.

Extracts from the Wenvoe School Log (1939-1945) and related stories that have appeared in the 'Wenvoe What's On' newsletter over the years, together with numerous photographs, are included in the 64 page booklet priced at £5.50.

STEPHEN JONES

Midsummer charity evening in the Vale

NICKY PIPER, the fundraising and events officer for George Thomas Hospice Care, has organised a Midsummer Night Music Dinner at Cottrell Park Golf

Resort on June 30, with proceeds going to support the charity.

George Thomas Hospice Care is the major provider of specialist community palliative care to those suffering cancer and other

life-threatening illnesses in Cardiff.

It also covers the Vale and currently cares for more than 300 patients. In 26 years, it has provided care for more than 18,000 patients.

The evening begins at 7pm with a reception, followed by a buffet supper with music from the Welsh National Opera.

Tickets are £25, with all profits going to George Thomas Hospice Care.

For more information and tickets, contact Nicky Piper on 029 2952 4150 or Email: info@ghc.org.uk

Ticket winners off to Legoland!

THE winners of our recent Legoland competition are:

Paula Jones, Cowbridge; Amanda Woodrew, Llantwit Major; Jenny Lewis, Bridgend; and Joanne Lewis, Wenvoe.

They each win one of four sets of tickets to Legoland congratulations to you all!

Look out for more great GEM competitions in the coming weeks.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

In accordance with The Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001, the Council is seeking applications from individuals interested in becoming an independent member of the Council's Standards Committee.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate independence and impartiality in assisting the Standards Committee in promoting, maintaining and improving ethical arrangements within the Council and Town and Community Councils.

- Are you a good listener?
- Are you inquisitive?
- Can you weigh up often conflicting evidence and reach an effective conclusion?
- Can you work as a team?
- Do you have respect for others and an understanding of diverse ethical issues?
- Do you have integrity and good character?

If so, you may be just the person we are looking for to become an independent member of the Committee which comprises 5 independent members, 3 Vale of Glamorgan Councillors and a Community Council representative. The Standards Committee is crucial in maintaining high ethical standards at County Borough and Community Council levels. Briefly its aims are to advise, assist and guide Members in the adoption, monitoring, operation, enforcement and review of various local codes of conduct and other ethical guidance.

You CANNOT in law be an independent member if you are:

- a serving Member or Officer (or the spouse or civil partner of a Member or Officer) of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, any other County or County Borough Council, a Fire Authority, a National Park Authority or a Town/Community Council
- a former Member or Officer of the Vale of Glamorgan Council
- a former Member or Officer of any other County or County Borough Council, Fire Authority or National Park Authority until at least one year after ceasing to be a Councillor/Officer of that authority.

The Independent member will be appointed for a period of between 4 and 6 years and may be appointed for one further consecutive term. The Standards Committee is likely to meet at least four times per year although independent members will need to have flexibility as to availability since the Committee sometimes has to meet at short notice.

A detailed knowledge of local government is not necessary although it would be an advantage if potential candidates were interested in matters relating to public life and services.

The ability to speak Welsh may be considered by the Appointment Panel to be an advantage and the Panel may take into account the need to achieve a balance of skills, qualities and expertise on the Committee, as well as the need to represent the community as a whole and achieve a geographical spread.

Candidates should not otherwise be disqualified (e.g. under Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972).

The post is remunerated at a rate of £1,200 per annum and the Council will reimburse legitimate approved expenses.

The Council is an equal opportunities employer and provider of services and welcomes applications from women, young people, disabled people and people from ethnic minorities.

Any person interested in becoming an independent member should forward a letter of application "In Confidence" to the undersigned explaining their suitability for the post together with two references by no later than 31st May, 2011. All applications will be judged on merit.

It is intended that interviews will take place in June 2011. The successful candidate will be expected to take up their appointment immediately.

Peter H. Evans
Monitoring Officer
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Civic Offices
Holton Road
BARRY
CF63 4RU



CHARITY GOLF

LLANDOUGH Hospital Breast Care unit will benefit from a charity golf day at Cottrell Park on August 8.

"We are looking for sponsors to raise money for the Breast Centre. The money raised will be used for building and equipping the Teaching and Training Centre, and to buy state-of-the-art equipment such as a 3D mammogram machine and MRI biopsy kit," a spokeswoman said.

For full details, contact the club secretary - andy.case62@yahoo.co.uk



Local Newspaper Week

May 9-15, 2011

NS the voice of local media

building stronger communities

'LOCAL NEWSPAPERS CAN GIVE POWER TO THE PEOPLE...'

If you could change one thing in your local area, what would it be?

Many people love and take pride in their community, but they might still wish for a few improvements.

Tidier streets could be on your wish list, or more leisure facilities for young people.

Some areas are blighted by problems such as poverty or high crime rates which provoke strong local feeling.

Whatever the issue, local people have the power to fight for their community and make a difference.

Local people are best-placed to make the decisions that will shape their community's future – because they know the area better than anyone else.

But in order to do so they need regular, up to date information they can trust and rely upon.

And that is where local newspapers have such a vital role to play.

Local newspapers bring important issues into sharp focus and spark real, meaningful action.

They give people unbiased, trusted information which they need to make to make the right decisions for them and their community.

In this way, local papers truly give power back to the people.

Be it taking control of their own housing association, or forming a new club or society, local newspapers give people the power to unite behind a cause and act.

Countless charities have benefited from the power of local papers. Through their pages, local papers can help with fundraising and volunteering campaigns.

Through the local paper, people can come together and unite behind a cause, be it a campaign for better medical facilities in their area, or a move to start a new football team.

Acting in this way, local newspapers truly are the glue that binds communities.

By uniting like-minded people, local papers promote clubs and societies and provide vital publicity for cultural events.

Similarly, they can promote local businesses, energising the local economy as they do so.

By performing this vital service, local newspapers not only inform the local community but shape its future for the better.

It is this unique quality, shared by local and regional papers across Britain, that we are celebrating during this year's Local Newspaper Week (9-15 May) and we hope that you will join us in doing so.

Primary pupils celebrate their own royal wedding!

Excitement was in the air at High Street Primary School as final preparations were under way to host the High Street royal wedding.

Bunting and balloons decked the school's assembly hall in readiness for the 'marriage' of William Ferris and Katherine Beddoe.

The Archbishop of High Street, Miss Kingston, conducted the 'service', watched by a congregation of High Street royals and their friends.

After the ceremony, the royal party and guests enjoyed some playtime before returning to the assembly hall for the traditional wedding reception.

After the reception, the wedding party enjoyed the traditional speeches before the royal disco took over with 'William and Catherine' dancing their first dance.

William surprised his 'new wife' and the wedding guests by performing a not so traditional break dance!

The children and staff enjoyed the 'wedding experience' and before heading home after a very enjoyable day at High Street, were presented with a royal wedding commemorative mug filled with Easter goodies from the school's PTA.

LESLEY MATTHEWS



"Shouldn't you be at the Abbey?"



JANE HUTT AM
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for the Vale of Glamorgan

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The Glamorgan GEM

for the excellent editorial and
photographs for Bryn Hafren
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Local Newspaper Week

May 9-15, 2011

NS the voice of local media

building stronger communities

HOW LOCAL NEWSPAPERS SHOW ANOTHER SIDE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

THERE are many unfortunate stereotypes about young people these days – and schools often take advantage of their local newspaper to show the other side of the coin.

The GEM values the contributions from schools in the Vale, and one we received this year came from two Barry Comprehensive sixth form students, Luke James and George Scott.

They were selected for a one-day trip to Auschwitz, earlier this year, an annual event organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, which aims to take students from every secondary school or college in the UK to the infamous former concentration camp in Poland.

These students are asked to become 'ambassadors' to ensure that the Nazi Holocaust in which six million Jewish people perished is never forgotten.

This was their report: **THE town of Oswiecim, just a few miles from**

Auschwitz, once housed a thriving Jewish community, which made up more than half of its population.

People would come from far and wide to visit the town's famed Great Synagogue.

This was where we started our journey, at the site on which the Great Synagogue once stood.

The Lessons from Auschwitz (LFA) project led us to appreciate that the Holocaust destroyed not only lives, but the cultures for which they stood, a key lesson of the project.

In Oswiecim, we visited a Jewish museum, where a talk led by Rabbi Barry Marcus from the Central Synagogue allowed us to appreciate the beauty of the culture that Nazism attempted to destroy.

In this talk, we were told the inspiring story of Szymon Kluger, the last Jew of Oswiecim, who after the war would open the doors of the synagogue each morning and close them each



ABOVE: Luke James and George Scott in the Auschwitz museum.

night to show that the Nazis had failed in their attempt to murder the Jewish population.

From the relative comfort of the indoor museum, we took a coach journey to Auschwitz One. The first thing we noticed was the infamous sign which says "ARBEIT MACHT FREI", meaning, "Work will set you free" – a symbol of the magnitude of the Nazis' deceit.

This well-preserved camp, originally built as barracks for the Polish Army, became the set-

ting for unimaginable torture and suffering.

It was here that we learned about how the gas chambers operated, as well as the cruel punishments imposed on prisoners who showed any small sign of defiance.

Arguably the most harrowing aspect of the trip was witnessing with our own eyes the great masses of possessions, looted and hoarded by the Nazis: hair, artificial limbs, shoes, suitcases, glasses, children's clothing.

It brought home to us that all people involved in the Holocaust – be they victims or perpetrators – were human beings, one of the key lessons from the project.

After visiting Auschwitz One, we were taken to Auschwitz Birkenau, a huge, open camp where the prisoners' hovels were converted from horse stables.

The size of the camp shocked us, with its great expanses of land that offered no shelter from the bitter Polish winter winds.

We were taken into the 'shelter' and the latrines, in which we learned about the harsh living conditions of Auschwitz, as well as the work forced upon the prisoners.

At the end of the trip, a memorial service led by Rabbi Marcus was held at the site of Krematorium II, destroyed by the Nazis in an attempt to conceal the horrific war crimes which they had committed.

In the service, a minute of silence was held for the many victims of the Holocaust – only one minute, as we were told that if one minute of silence were

given for each person murdered at Auschwitz, we would have had to have been silent for three years.

During the visit, we, alongside the other students, found that we felt numb, unable to take in that which lay before us.

It was only afterwards that we were able to properly process that which we had seen and experience the emotional effects of visiting a death camp.

We reflected on our own personal experiences of the trip in a follow-up seminar, during which we were also given examples as to how we can apply the lessons we have learned to today's society, in which, as we can see from current genocides such as Darfur, atrocities in the vein of the Holocaust are still occurring.

Several cultural sites, such as the Great Synagogue, are long forgotten today, but it is thanks to the LFA project, we can be sure that the atrocities that led to their destruction will never be forgotten.

LUKE JAMES AND GEORGE SCOTT



ABOVE: A watchtower and perimeter fencing at Auschwitz One.

The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council Councillor Colin Osborne wishes to congratulate **The Glamorgan GEM** on their reporting of local news and community issues and thanks them for their support during his year of office.



Hoffai Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y Cyngorydd Colin Osborne longyfarch aelodau staff **Y Glamorgan GEM** ar eu gwaith yn cyflwyno newyddion lleol a materion cymunedol, a diolch iddynt am eu holl gefnogaeth yn ystod ei flwyddyn yn y swydd.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

would like to invite you to the **Art & Design Exhibition** of A and AS Level and GCSE work which is being held in the Art Block at The Cowbridge Comprehensive School, Aberthryn Road on Thursday 9th June 2011 from 6pm-7.30pm We are pleased to support our local newspaper who continually report our news and pupils' achievements.

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The Glamorgan GEM

Thank you for spreading our news Keep up the good work!

Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Pendoylan, Vale of Glamorgan

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI

The Town Mayor of Barry, (2010-2011) Councillor

Karl Kuhnell would like to thank

The Glamorgan GEM for the excellent coverage during his year in office. "As always, The GEM has enhanced its deserved reputation as a successful community newspaper."

WE work in and with many different communities across the UK and we know from experience that local newspapers are an important part of our communications toolkit.

Much of our work is about empowering local people to tackle a pressing need in their local communities, whether it is helping to protect children at risk of neglect, supporting people with disabilities to live independently in their own homes or creating safer and welcoming green spaces in our towns and cities.

Especially during tough economic times such as these, we

by **LUCY DE GROOT**, Chief Executive of CSV

recognise how we can inspire other people to take positive action in their local communities through some of the thousands of articles that are written about our projects every year.

Not only this, but local papers have also run significant articles that have played a part in helping to save valued work that were threatened by cuts.

Every year, volunteers and their contribution are widely promoted, recognised and thanked through local papers for taking

part in Make a Difference Day, the biggest single mobilisation of volunteers held every October throughout the UK.

Last year alone, more than 500 pieces appeared in local newspapers which reported on activities as diverse as creating homes for endangered snakes, bees and newts or protecting ancient burial mounds through to activities that helped premature babies.

No doubt this year, newspapers such as The GEM will make their own distinct contribution in highlighting the efforts of the local communities they serve and I know that we will continue to value the work of local journalists.

YSGOL GYFUN BRO MORGANNWG
Unig Ysgol Gyfun Cyfrwng Cymraeg y Ffôn
A Welsh Medium School for the Vale

We appreciate the editorial space provided by **The Glamorgan GEM**

Rydym yn gwerthfawrogi y cyfle i sôn am ein llwyddiannau yn **Y Glamorgan GEM**

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Heol Colcote, Y Barri CF62 8YU – Ffôn/Tel 01446 450280
post@bromorgannwg.org.uk/www.yfro.org.uk
Pennaeth/Headteacher: Dr Dylan E Jones

BARRY Comprehensive SCHOOL

The staff and pupils would like to thank **The Glamorgan GEM** for the editorial and photographs celebrating Barry Comprehensive School's continued success.

Tel: 01446 411411
Download the prospectus and keep up to date with BCS news by visiting **www.barrycomp.com**

CADOXTON BARRY ROUND-UP

Last minute relegation reprieve is now Cadoxton Barry's only hope

CAERPHILLY needed all three points to give them any chance of staying up when they welcomed Cadoxton Barry FC.

Their first real chance came ten minutes into the game when a long ball in from the half way line set up a chance which went just over the bar.

Then two more hopeful shots from distance tested CB before they had their first serious chance – a cross from Murphy seeing the Caerphilly keeper grab-

bing the ball at the feet of Darren Baker.

Harvey did well to head clear a vicious in-swinging Caerphilly corner before Sales sent in a quality corner of his own – two resultant shots both being blocked close to the line.

Aiden Lewis then slid a pass through to offer Murphy a chance but, side on to goal, he didn't have the space to turn.

Another Sales' corner saw Harvey head onto a post, but an infringement meant that it

wouldn't have counted anyway.

Within a short space of time Caerphilly earned two free kicks in identical spots, the former hitting the wall and the latter whizzing only just over the bar.

Then, just as CB were beginning to look as though they were capable of taking control of the match, a Caerphilly up-and-under landed perfectly for a Caerphilly forward.

The only problem was that it appeared off-side, but undeterred, the

South Wales Senior League Division One AFC Caerphilly Cadoxton Barry FC

1 1

player went on to execute a well taken finish.

There were only seconds left before the half time whistle which saw CB go in a goal in the red.

With Josh Manning on for Ben Stait, an early curling free kick by the former brought a quality diving save out of the Caerphilly keep-

Boulton's dive to cross the line via the post.

Manning sent in a powerful free kick from five yards beyond the edge of the box, and although a defender appeared to handle inside the box while in the process of clearing, nothing was awarded.

CB continued to pound away for the final few minutes, but they just couldn't get the winner that their near total second half control deserved.

Cadoxton Barry end the season on 17 points, one ahead of bottom club, Garw, and five behind also-relegated Caerphilly.

Although relegation is more than likely, the fact that two of the sides in the three promotion spots in Division Two do not currently meet with Division One ground criteria could offer the merest glimmer hope of a reprieve for both AFC Caerphilly and Cadoxton Barry FC.

Vale of Glamorgan League Division One
Llantwit Major
Seconds 4
Cadoxton Barry

FC 1

WHILE the scoreline slightly flattered Major, this defeat allowed The Knap to pull up level with CB on points, and nick the Vale League Division One runner-up spot from under CB's noses by dint of their superior goal difference.

Nonetheless, third is not to be sniffed at. Well done to joint managers, Mark Ellis and Matthew Hoare and, most importantly, all the lads!

Congratulations to champions, Waterfront Wanderers and second-placed Knap.

Vale of Glamorgan League Division Two
Cadoxton Barry FC Thirds 1, Park Vets 4

WITH a better goal difference and a two point lead over Cadoxton Imps Seconds, CB needed just one point from this afternoon's encounter with Park Vets to be sure of the title.

Following a disappointing 4-1 defeat at the hands of Park Vets, the CB players sat heads in hands in the Bryn-y-

Don changing rooms assuming that Cadoxton Imps had done what was needed to snatch the title by one point from under their noses.

Then news came through that Imps had, at one point, led Athletic by a seemingly invincible 4-0 scoreline, but that a turn of events saw the Athletic come back to snatch a 4-4 draw late in the game.

So with their two point lead only being trimmed to one, they had, in fact, retained their title.

It is worth noting that the retaining of a Vale Second Division Title is a very rare thing indeed – although it could become more frequent in the future.

Although they have a lot to thank Cadoxton Athletic for, at the end of the day, CB earned the most points over the course of the season and therefore deserve it on merit. Well done Paul Francis and all the lads!

NW

Cowbridge tennis players get off to winning start

ALL the senior teams at Cowbridge Tennis Club have played their opening matches in the summer doubles league.

It was the men who got off to a winning start as a strong men's first team had a convincing 6-0 win against Llantrisant.

Cowbridge has amassed considerable talent lately and classy performances from newcomers Anthony James (south Wales county player) and Andres Delgado contributed hugely on

their debuts.

Ian Duggan, Colin Rees, Simon Lake and Paul Arnold completed the winning team.

A similar success story for the men's second team, beating Dinas Powys at home 5-1, Paul Wilby and Philip Ley and Simon and Sean Boga-Lake winning two, and John Edwards and David Buick, one.

The ladies' first team travelled to Alt-yr-Yn for a disappointing 5-1 defeat, while the ladies' second team had an away fixture at Usk and a home game against

David Lloyd, which were lost 5-1 and 6-0.

Congratulations to Mike Harpin for representing Wales again in the recent home nations matches.

With the new tennis season up and running, Cowbridge Tennis Club are holding a junior open day this Saturday, May 14, from 10am to 2pm.

All children, members and non-members, are warmly invited to come along.

AK

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St Iltyds Court, Llantwit Major

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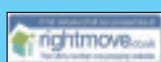
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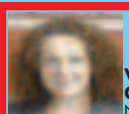
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Legal, Public Protection and Housing Department

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Newydd Housing Association

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- Parking

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H4U Reference 206379

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H4U Reference 972370

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- Gardens/garage

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- Double glazing
- Communal gardens

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**ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH**

H4U Reference 245193

Suitable for a single person, couple or small family

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing

Rent £78.70 per week including service charge

**LLANTWIT MAJOR - RENT FIRST SCHEME**

The Vale of Glamorgan's first 'Rent First' Scheme is under development in Llantwit Major. This centrally-located development consists of 14 three and four-bed townhouses and will be managed by Hafod Housing Association.

The Council is seeking applications for the Rent First scheme from individuals and families aspiring to home ownership.

What is the rent first Scheme?

'Rent First' is a scheme that enables people to rent a property first and then purchase it, if they wish to, at a later date. The Rent First scheme provides a mid-market housing solution for individuals and families who are in a financially stable position, but are unable to purchase a house at the present time due to economic uncertainties, house prices or lack of deposit for a mortgage.

Under the Rent First scheme, rent will be charged at a lower amount than market rent, which will enable a deposit to be saved. The tenant will then be able to purchase the property after a period of three years.

Who will qualify for the rent first scheme?

To be eligible for the scheme applicants must:

- be over 18;
- be a UK citizen or EU/EEA passport holder or have 'indefinite leave to remain' stamped in your passport; and
- must have lived or worked in the Vale of Glamorgan for the last six months or have a relevant local connection to Llantwit Major or adjacent communities.

Applicants leaving the armed forces must also:

- have lived in the Vale of Glamorgan for six months prior to joining the armed forces;
- be first time buyers (or consider themselves to be first time buyers in their own right); and
- meet certain affordability criteria (including a minimum income requirement).

For an application form, phone Contact One Vale on 01446 700 111 and ask for 'Rent First'.

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H4U Reference 226290

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- Double-glazing
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You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.

All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

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IT'S A CAVALRY CHARGE AS RUNNERS DESCEND ON PORTHKERRY PARK



THE annual five-mile run in Porthkerry Park, Barry, has now established itself as a popular event on the athletics circuit for serious and fun runners alike.

It was noticeable that there were members of running clubs from all over south Wales taking part, and the massed start was a spectacular sight!

This year, the two nominated charities that would benefit from funds raised were the Jamie Adamson Memorial Fund (universally known in Barry as the JAM Fund) and the mental health charity, Mind.

As a thank-you to the organisers, Paul Adamson (who has run the charity with wife Nicola since 2005 as a tribute to his late son Jamie) put on his running kit and completed the five miles!

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event. They can be purchased by contacting:

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Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

RIGHT: The event's popularity attracted runners from Porthcawl (right) and Cornelly (far right).
BELOW:

Paul Haley of the organisation 'Pride in Barry' was a competitor.



Dinas open their bowling campaign in some style!

WELSH club champions Dinas Powys first team opened their 2011 campaign with a solid win over local rivals Millwood.

Dinas started well, taking a 13-shot lead after five ends.

With three rinks on top for the whole game, the lead increased steadily to 32 shots

after 15 ends.

Millwood fought back during the last seven, but consistent bowling across the board gave Dinas the edge, and they finished with a lead of 24 shots, with two rinks up, one drawn and one lost.

A good early season win which should give them confidence for the season ahead.

Dinas Powys rink

scores:

A Harvey, A Desrosiers, H Meddins, N Leigh: 29 - 6; D Parker, C Bates, R Janes, M Ackland: 18 - 18; G White, A Wedlake, M Clarke, A Meddins: 21 - 15; D Vowles, R Osbourne, G Griffiths, M Woodcock: 10 - 15

SECOND TEAM IN CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Dinas second string travelled to Rhiwbina for the first game in defence of their Private Greens Division Two

Championship.

They came away with an 11-shot victory, 81 - 70, following a close game.

Top rink, with a 14-shot win, was skip Neil Giles' rink of D James, R Evans, A Desrosiers.

Dinas Powys rink scores:

D James, R Evans, A Desrosiers, N Giles: 26 - 12; M Diment, M Seaford, C Scott, A Jones: 21 - 17; G Parr, G Welch, C Bates, A Woodcock: 16 - 17; D James, R Evans, A Desrosiers, N Giles: 26 - 12.

AD



SULLY SPORTS ENJOY GOOD TOUR TO DOWTY

SULLY Sports travelled to Gloucester for an end of season tour to take on an old foe in Dowty RFC.

The team travelled with a good healthy playing squad of 20, which became a bonus as the hosts were short of players so the visitors waded in to help the match go ahead.

Sully started well with their trademark game of ball-carrying forwards, with Jody Velda and Jon Blake leading the charge. This gave the back line the space they needed, allowing winger Nathan Szuchnik to go over for a first half hat-trick.

No 8 Jon Blake added the other try of the half after making a run through the mid-field, following great support by his team mates.

The second half saw a change in personnel to allow the boys on tour to play for the club they arrived with, and more tries followed, with Nathan Stingl chasing down a smart chip kick through, Nathan Szuchnik adding another,

DOWTY SULLY SPORTS

0 37

er, and despite Jake Haysham repeating the first half exploits by running into next door's school car park to touchdown, scrum-half Lee Walters finished off the points with a converted try under the posts following good handling by full-back Wayne Jones and flanker Justin Di Tomaso.

The final minutes saw Dowty's best passage of play, with several attempts on Sully's line, but the visitors

held firm to shut out the hosts till the final whistle.

Despite the one-sided scoreline, both sides played in the good spirit that a tour match warranted, with the post match festivities going on well into the night.

Sully Sports enjoyed a successful tour that mirrored their season, more ups and downs, having to improvise when last-minute changes were needed and finishing strong at the end!

Team: W Jones, I Paterson, A Wheeler, P Mees (c), N Szuchnik, J Thomas, L Walters, J Griffiths, A Penberthy, J Velda, M Angove, A Szuchnik, P Miller, J Di Tomaso, J Blake.

Replacements: R Gully, J Haysham, R Franks, D Weston, M Stingl.

The playing squad would like to thank physio Ron Weston, who has done a great job all season on and off the pitch, making running repairs on a constant basis to keep the boys going on a Saturday afternoon!

JDT

The Barry Pumas grab league and Cup double

BARRY Pumas FC secured the league and cup double on Sunday when they became Lazarou Division Three champions.

They did this with an emphatic 9-0 win over Legal and General Athletic, to top the table by two points.

Goals came from seven players: One each from Matthew Davies, Chris Scott, Julian Davis, Marcus Jones, Scott Christopherato, and

Anthony Partridge, and a Jamie Randall hat-trick.

As the scoreline suggests, the Pumas were on top, with solid performances by Dean Hyde, Michael Lewis, Spencer Lamb, Danny Field-Thomas, and Morgan Stephens, who made his long-awaited return from injury.

The team would like to thank all their supporters and well wishers, and hope for more of the same next year in Division Two.

MS

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GEM Family Notices

Birthdays

Happy Birthday
Jan Chapman
on May 12, 2011
From all your friends
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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Faith & Glyn FRANCIS

Both 80 years Young!

With lots of love
from Robert, Anne, Sian,
Chris, Sue and Mick.
Nathan, Hannah, Tristan,
James, Rhydian, Libby and Vincent.
x x

Ning, Aaron, Julia, Jotham and Helene.

Family Notices

PRICE

Nigel David

Peacefully on April 30 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, after a prolonged illness, Nigel of Llantwit Major, beloved son of the late Hilda and David Price, dearly loved brother of Alan and a much loved uncle.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Tuesday May 17, service 10.45am at St Illtyds followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 12 noon.

Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu if desired to Cancer Research Wales c/o Mrs C. James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

William Henry Stone

of Llantwit Major

sadly passed away 4th May, aged 88, at the Princess of Wales Hospital.

"His sense of humour and smiling face,
Are easy to recall,
He had a kindly word for everyone,
And died loved by all."

— God Bless.

Love from all your family
Thank you to the nursing and cleaning staff
on ward 7 for all your care and support.

Funeral 17th May 2pm at St Illtyds Church,
Llantwit Major.

No flowers please. Donations to Alzheimers
Society greatly appreciated.

DAVIES

Mostyn John

The family of the late Mostyn would like to
thank everyone for their kindness and support
following their sudden bereavement.

They would particularly like to thank
the team of paramedics who responded
so promptly to the emergency call.
Thanks also to those who provided and served
refreshments following the service.
Donations made to Elfed Avenue United Church
and the floral tributes were much appreciated.

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Llantwit 'A' bowlers tie game against Rectory Road

LLANTWIT A
were at home to
Penarth Rectory
Road for the second
round of the A Cup
last Saturday.

With the weather
mixed with a blustery
wind and getting colder
towards the end, it was a
hard game.

Arthur Harvey's rink of
Eddie Lamb, Mick
Mason and Roger
Williams got off to a fly-
ing start and after 12
ends were 20-5 up.

But then Penarth
woke up, and the home
rink only scored one shot
in the last nine ends.

Phil Clarke's rink of
W Evans, R French and
R Harding had a hard
game, but Phil and Roy
were pulled up some remark-
able conversion shots.

However, Penarth
were playing very well
and won five shots.

Ritchie Gray's rink of
P Brown, M Jones and K
Williams put up a solid
performance but could-
n't hold their opponents
and lost by only two
shots.

Eric Hacker's rink of
D Aherne junior, K
Morgan and P Twomey
led all the way and fin-
ished with comfortable
six shot lead.

For young D Aherne,
just 12-years-old, it was
a very impressive debut
and something for his
father to be proud of.

Rink scores:
A Harvey 21-20; P
Clarke 15-20; R Gray
20-22; E Hacker 19-13.
The final score was
75-75.

WE

Barry Huskies junior teams

FOR ANYONE interested in learning
basketball skills and playing for a team,
Barry Huskies are forming boys and girls
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The club trains at Holm View Leisure Centre,
Skomer Road on Sundays (11am-1pm) and on
Fridays (6pm to 8pm).

If interested, contact Ian on 07967 56 2392; club
information can be found on www.barryhuskies.net

Charity day for cancer and brain tumour research

LOCAL businessmen David Harris and
Julian Kelly of the NFU Mutual
Insurance are organising a charity golf
day on Friday, May 20, at The Grove Golf
Club to raise funds for the Ed Evans
Foundation.

The late Mr Ed Evans set up this locally-based
charity in 2006 just 12 months before he died of a
brain tumour in 2007. It was Ed's wish that his fam-
ily and friends continue the work of the foundation,
whose main aim is to raise funds for Cancer
Research Wales and also for Brain Tumour research.

Vale golfers interested in supporting this worthy
cause are asked to contact the NFU Mutual
Insurance office at Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

TMcC

Vale MP hears of carers' concerns

VALE MP Alun
Cairns joined the
Vale Carers Group
in Barry at their
recent monthly
meeting to hear
first-hand about the
issues and concerns.

He said that he was
keen to hear about issues
such as carers' legislation
and appreciated that car-
ers provide an essential
service - with one in
eight of adults in Wales
providing care for a fam-
ily member or friend.

The Vale Carers also
discussed with the MP
the effects of the pro-
posed benefit changes,
and how that would
affect individuals.

"With more than
90,000 people in Wales
providing more than 50
hours of care per week
for family and friends,
it's essential to fully
understand the issues and
concerns that carers
have," Mr Cairns com-
mented.

"Each and every carer
plays a valuable and vital
role and I was pleased to
be able to discuss the
Government's priority
areas for the next four
years to ensure the best
possible outcomes for
carers and those they
support. The Group
raised a number of issues
with me in relation to
carers' legislation and
benefit changes."

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High drama as year-9 basketball side snatches last-minute win!

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

AFTER an unbeaten run of nearly two years, Cowbridge made the step up into hitherto uncharted territory for the school – the South Wales Championship held at the Rhondda Fach Leisure Centre.

There were qualifying teams from all over south Wales with year-9 Cowbridge drawn in a pool with Risca, Gwyr and Gartholwg.

The winning team would go forward to the Welsh Championships in Swansea, along with the winners of the other pool to play against two pool winners from north Wales.

The team were 'up for it' beating Risca 26-7 and Gwyr 26-2. With one game to go, they were confident but a little nervous. In the final game against Gartholwg their opponents started well, with one of their players scoring nearly all their points.

Cowbridge never led and with 67 seconds to go, they were four points down; at 44 seconds, it was two points down, and at seven seconds to go the scores were tied!

Gartholwg threw a speculative shot which Cowbridge rebounded and he ball went to Tom Trotman, who threw a long ball to Matty Roberts who took it off balance, righted himself, put himself on his favourite left hand and shot. The ball went through the hoop and as it hit the floor the buzzer sounded.

The place erupted with Cowbridge boys going wild, they had won 15-13 they were in the Welsh finals.

Coaches Bob Lewis and Olly Trotman had aged 20 years in 67 seconds and begged the team 'not again boys' as Bob would get a telegram from the queen.

After the game it

transpired that they had not played Gartholwg KS 3 team but, due to an organisational error, their KS4 team which comprised of boys at least one and possibly two years older, with a leading Welsh international in the side.

Having played three and won three, they were in the last four in Wales on finals day in Swansea on Saturday, May 7.

Netball

Congratulations to Molly Williams in year-12 who won the 'most improved player' in the Cardiff and Vale County netball awards. Well done Molly!

Hockey

Congratulations to Rosa Hartman in year-8 who has been selected for next season's under-14 county hockey squad. Well done Rosa!

Football

YEAR-8 proved too strong for year-7, winning comfortably 7-2. The goals were shared around.

Year-8 (B) played Year-7 (B). In this game the year-7 team were better organised and had more skill, winning 4-2 with goals from Tom Kynaston (two), Tom Edwards and Evan Turner.

The year-8 goals were from Rian Thomas and Edward Couzens.

Badminton

THE school badminton club meets every Monday after school (3.15pm to 5pm). At the end of the season, the club held its annual tournament at both singles and doubles.

The results were as follows: **Boys doubles** – under-16 winners, Logan Lloyd and Lloyd Morgan; Under-14 winners, Amos Booth and Nathan Weaver; Under-13 winners, Joe Bunt and Max Lloyd; Under-12 winners, Toff Patel and Harry Hopkins.

Boys singles – Under-16 winner, Logan Lloyd; runner

up, Lloyd Morgan; Under-15 winner, Isaac Richmond; runner up, Nathan Weaver; Under-13 winner, Amos Booth; runner up, Max Lloyd; Under-12 winner, Toff Patel; runner up, Iwan Goodwin.

Plate – Under-12 winners, Tom Williams; runner up, Joshua Evans.

Girls Doubles – Under-16 winners, Jessica Oliver and Lois Palmer; Under-14 winners, Holly Pitcock and Lowri Morgan; Under-12 winners, Natalie Smith and Lauren David.

Singles – Under-16 winners, Jessica Oliver; runners up, Lois Palmer; Under-15 winner, Amy Oliver; runner up, Carys Lloyd; Under-14 winner, Nia Patel; runner up, Lowri Morgan; Under-13 winner, Rosa Hartman; runner up, Millie Green; Under-12 winner, Natalie Smith; runner up, Lauren David.

Transition Football

TEN teams from seven primary schools entered the five-a-side football transition league organised by Cowbridge Comprehensive School PE department and year-12 Dragon Sport volunteers.

In week one and at the start of week two, the teams were split into two pools where they played a round robin competition.

In pool one, Peterston super Ely and St Brides B, Llansannor A, St David's B and Llanfair were the first five teams. Llansannor A were the clear winners of this pool, winning all their games by significant margins.

Second was Peterston Super Ely A team who won three games out of four. In third were Llanfair, winning and drawing one game, losing two games and scoring six goals.

In fourth place were

St Brides, who also won and drew one game and lost two but only managed to score two goals.

In pool two, the teams were Peterston super Ely B, St Brides A, Llansannor B, St David's A and Cowbridge. This pool was closer, with Peterston super Ely B and Llansannor B both winning three games and losing one.

Peterston super Ely won the pool by scoring more goals than Llansannor. In third place was St David's A who just beat Cowbridge on goal difference. In fifth place was St Brides A, who drew and lost two games.

For ninth and 10th place, St David's B played St Brides A. This game ended in a draw 0-0 so both teams placed ninth.

For seventh and eighth, Cowbridge beat St Brides B 2-0.

For fifth and sixth place, Llanfair beat St David's A 2-0.

For third and fourth, Peterston Super Ely A played Llansannor B which ended in a draw so both came third, and the clear winners were Llansannor A who beat Peterston super Ely 4-0 in the final.

An excellent two weeks was had by all the footballers. The next transition is gymnastics.

Skiing

THE following skiers have been selected to represent the school at the South Wales Regional Artificial Ski Championships on May 10 at Fairwater Ski Centre, Cardiff.

Boys A Team – George Spill, Harry Hitchcock, Jack Phillips, Matthew Goodlad.

Girls A Team – Emily Hopkins, Sarah Williams, Amy Taylor, Megan Allman.

B Teams – Jamie Griffiths, Nicky Griffiths, Nicky Griffiths, Harry Hopkins, Hannah Taylor, Amy Oliver, Caitlin Johns, Bethan White.

C Teams – Ben



Llansannor are winning team in the transition football

Jones, Jonathan Harvey, Huw Bennett, Hywel Williams, Mannon Thomas, Lowri Morgan, Olivia Brown, Jessica Scibba.

D Team – Ben Terry, Henry Jones, Joshua Brace, Gabe Newham.

Rugby

YEAR-8 (B) and year-7 (A) played on the new pitch in the new school in an excellent game of rugby played at a furious pace.

Year-8 held out to win 22-21. Tries for year-8 were scored by Gabe Newham, Kristian Jones (two), Craig Boxall, conversion by Robert David.

Year-7 tries were by Joe Nott, Sam John, Cai Evans and three conversions.

Rosslyn Park Sevens

YEAR-8 travelled to Rosslyn Park London for the annual Sevens tournament.

This is the biggest Sevens tournament in the world, held over five days with 299 games played on the first day at under-13 age group level. 120 teams took part in the open under-13 age group.

In the round robin tournament, the school played Thorpe House, Buckinghamshire, winning comfortably 45-0. Tries were by Tom Trotman (four), Joe Davies, Tom Lucas (two). Conversions by Matthew Harper (five).

Cowbridge v St Olaves, Kent; won 43-12, tries by Tom Trotman (two), Joe Davies, Tom Lucas (three), and Ben Jones. Conversions by Matthew Harper (four).

Cowbridge v Plymouth College; won 36-0, tries by Joe Davies (two), Rian Thomas, Nathan Robson (three). Conversions by Jonathan Harvey (three).

The group winners went on to play in the knockout stage (the last

32).

Cowbridge v Amman Valley; won 29-10. Tries by Tom Trotman, Tom Lucas (three), Tom Evans. Conversions by Matthew Harper (two).

Last 16 (v Royal Latin School, Buckinghamshire); This was a very tough game where the boys had to work very hard defensively and stood up to the challenge well and won 26-7. Tries by Tom Trotman, Rian Thomas, Tom Lucas (and one conversion), Fraser McGhan.

Conversions, Matthew Harper (two). The boys had a deserved rest in the night in preparation for the quarter finals the next day. Everyone retired to bed early after an excellent meal in the Italian restaurant. The school team drew St Benedict's of London in the next stage; a team that they lost to in the Berkhamstead Sevens a fortnight earlier.

The boys needed no motivation for a return fixture. The school scored first with Rian Thomas scoring under the post converted by Matthew Harper.

St Benedict's, replied only for Cowbridge captain Joe Davies to score before half time.

Conceding two tries early in the second half didn't help matters, but Tom Trotman was put away twice. There were only seconds left for his second try, from one end of the field thanks to a brilliant break by Tom Lucas. Matthew Harper converted both to record an excellent 26-22 win.

This put the boys in to the first ever semi-final in their short history of competing at the Sevens in Rosslyn. In the semi-final, playing against bigger and stronger Whitgift School, who have won this tournament on many occasions. The boys struggled early on but never gave up coming back with a try every time Whitgift

scored but ran out of time losing 26-21. A fantastic effort from all the squad.

Tries by Tom Trotman, Rian Thomas, Tom Lucas.

Conversions by Matthew Harper (three). *Squad: Joe Davies (captain), Tom Lucas, Hywel Williams, Ben Jones, Matthew Harper, Jonathan Harper, Tom Evans, Tom Trotman, Fraser McGhan, Rian Thomas, Luke John, Nathan Robson.*

A big thank you to all the parents who supported the boys over two days, the head-teacher, Mrs Evans for allowing the boys time off and Mr Neil Thomas, head of physical education for organising the week at Rosslyn Sevens.

The boys certainly showed that they can compete at this level on the field with skill and determination. Maybe with the cut backs in education financially, we may struggle to compete with the public schools and an opportunity for the boys of Cowbridge Comprehensive School to continue entering these tournaments might be more difficult in the future.

Thank you boys for all your hard work and effort.

UNDER-16s

THE Cowbridge under-16s once again showed their class at the annual British Sevens competition at Rosslyn Park, London.

In the group stage (where losing one game inevitably means being knocked out) there was an early scare against Eltham School.

It was only thanks to some outstanding scramble defence that the boys stayed in the tournament with a 12-10 win.

The second group game proved to be somewhat easier with a 22-12 win over Blundell's, Devon.

At this early stage, with combinations still

being experimented, Rhys Griffin was showing his creative class, with Charlie Morris in the back line, and Chris Brace was unfazed by playing a year up and scored some outstanding individual tries.

Gus McPherson and Evan Phillips were controlling the mid-field with a combination of power and deft touches. Saffron Walden were the next victims.

They were defeated 35-12 as the boys grew in confidence.

Harry Hitchcock, using his trademark pace, grabbed tries in quick succession ably assisted by Christian Roberts Walters whose footwork skills would have been just as apt on *Strictly Come Dancing*.

Oliver Hitchings enjoyed a long range gallop to score and was a continual presence in both attack and defence, as was fellow forward Matt Goodlad.

The team faced fellow Celts Caerleon in order to progress to the last 16, and with the pressure on the boys used their imagination and expressed themselves to the full, with a classic combination of possession in attack and brutal defence.

McPherson once again terrorised the opposition, while Brace and Griffin set the backs free in attack cruising to a 31-12 victory.

The last 16 game against Dulwich College proved one step too far for the exhausted team who lost 31-7.

The boys can take some satisfaction that Dulwich College reached the final of the Colts competition and were narrowly defeated by Tonbridge.

Mr Hopkins (head coach) and Mr Thomas (team manager) would like to thank both the boys and the parents for their continued support throughout this season and at Rosslyn Park.



Rosslyn Park Sevens squad (year-8)

ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AT YSGOL GYMRAEG SANT CURIG

Pupils learn all about sports in a busy fortnight of activities

A VERY busy fortnight for pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig began when pupils from year-3 were given rugby lessons by a representative from the Cardiff Blues coaching team.

Class teacher Miss Nina Davies said: "We are very grateful to the Cardiff Blues region for continuing to support rugby development in the school. The children thoroughly enjoy the sessions and develop their skills quickly with expert coaching."

Children from year-5 were treated to a taster session in lacrosse. They were unfamiliar with the game but were enthused by the session. All pupils took part, and several were keen to continue the lessons outside of school hours.

The football, netball and rugby teams have also been very active in the past fortnight. The football team, led by year-4 teacher Mr Aled Williams, reached the quarter-finals in both the Urdd and New Directions football tournaments.

The netball team, under the coaching of year-5 teacher Miss Rhian Samuel, also competed in the Urdd competition, winning four matches out of five but losing out to the eventual winners.

They also took on Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun-y-Nant in a friendly and ran out convincing winners 16-4, as well as beating Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc 11-4.

There was no success for the rugby team, losing out to Ysgol Pen-y-Garth in their first match of the year. The game was played in a wonderful spirit and all the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Chwaraeon sydd wedi bod ar y fwydlen i ddisgylion Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig yn ystod y pythefnos ddiwethaf. Gleision Caerdydd, Lacrosse, Pêl-droed, Pêl-rwyd a Rygbi iddynt fwynhau. Rydym yn ddiolchgar i bawb sydd wedi rhoi o'u hamser i helpu hyfforddi'r plant yn y meysydd yma ac i'r holl rieni cefnogol sydd gennym. **RJ**



Gymnastics club leaps to the top – after winning award



ABOVE: The Barry YMCA Gymnastics team pick up their award from Mark Ramprakash

BARRY YMCA Gymnastics have won the coveted Volunteer Management Award at the Sport and Recreation Alliance's Sport Club of the Year awards ceremony.

Awarded by the Alliance to sports clubs which have made an outstanding contribution to their community, representatives from Barry YMCA received their trophy and a £2,500 cheque from

cricketing legend and Strictly Come Dancing star Mark Ramprakash.

The Sport and Recreation Alliance, in association with the Foundation for Sport and the Arts (FSA), was proud to host the ceremony, held in St Paul's, London, to celebrate the outstanding commitment and dedication of the finalists in making sport accessible to all.

Tim Lamb, chief executive of the Alliance said: "Barry YMCA Gymnastics Club has been run-

ning for 94 years but has really jumped into the 21st century with over 800 members. The club engages people not only at beginner level, but also elite gymnasts and everybody in between."

Mark Ramprakash added: "Barry YMCA Gymnastics Club is a club which has truly moved with the times and the fact that the centre has been identified as a training centre of excellence is testament to the brilliant way the club is run and managed."

Midweek Cavaliers' fine start to the season

THE Major **Llantwit** **Cavaliers** **Midweek XI, runners-up in the Vale of Glamorgan** **Midweek League** **2010, played Barry West End in a run-fest at Barry Island in the opening fixture of their 2011 season.**

The Cavs welcomed back to the midweek fold former players Luke Vincent and Jack Lansdown.

Winning the toss and electing to bat, the Cavs scored 162 for 4 off their 20 overs, Luke Vincent (71), bowled off the last ball of the innings, and James Snelson (46 not out) put on a partnership of 84 runs; best bowling came from Mansfield (3 for 21).

The Barry West innings got off to a good start, getting to 20 before Dave Cheal (1 for 20) bowled N Vann (9).

This brought Ian Gadd to the crease and together with Chris Lane they took the attack to the Cavs. At one point it looked like they could well take the game away,

putting on 116 runs in 14 overs, before Ian (40) and Chris (79) were both snared by Luke Vincent (4 for 18) in an excellent all round performance.

James Snelson (1 for 19) took the other wicket as the West End innings closed on 146 off 20 overs in rapidly fading light.

The Midweek Colts, 118 all out – Sam Pickford (46), Adrian Ashton (24) – lost to Dinas Powys, 172 for 3 – Fazal Abbas (58) and Asad Rizvi (50).

The Cavs would like to thank their Midweek sponsors, Coast tapas bar, for their much appreciated sponsorship of the club's two midweek sides.

This week, the Midweek XI are home to the Fontgary with the Colts away at Creigiau.

The opening fixtures of the Saturday Welsh Conference were rained off, but this week the First XI are home to last season's Division Two runners-up Cross Keys, while the Second XI are away to last season's Division Two champions Barry Wanderers.

DC

Rhoose bowlers start season well

RHOOSE Bowling Club had a very encouraging start to their season.

The club's opening game was a mixed friendly against Fairwater, which the home club won by 11 shots.

The men's team travelled to Aberkenfig for their first match on grass, and despite winning on three rinks, Rhoose eventually drew this friendly match.

On Wednesday, May 4, the team played their first Munro Cup home match - their opponents were Penarth Belle Vue.

A hard-fought game saw Rhoose secure a decisive win by 97 shots to 35.

Then, on Saturday May 7, the men's team entertained Porthcawl for their first Carruthers Shield match. The more

experienced Porthcawl side won this match by 85 shots to 66.

The ladies team played their first afternoon league match on Thursday, May 5 against local rivals Barry Central.

Rhoose drew on one rink and lost on the second, but the third rink, skipped by Grace Watkins, won by 27½ shots to 11.

This result secured an overall win for Rhoose by 55½ shots to 42.

In the past month, the club has also been active on the social side.

A successful captain's day was followed by a fun day to celebrate the royal wedding.

Then, on Monday, May 2, the competition draw night concluded with a wine and cheese party, incorporating a singalong led by Ron Evans.

LLANTWIT MAJOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL

IN midweek, the under-15s A visited Cogan Coronation and won 6-0, with Josh Steventon notching a hat trick; Connor Taylor (2) and Ashley Morris added the others.

This leaves the team with two matches against Dinas Powys A left to play.

On Saturday, the

by GWYN JOHN

under-15 B ended their campaign with a 4-3 home win over Dinas Powys B.

In an exciting match, Llantwit edged to victory with Jordan bush (2), Matthew Coupland and Jack Dakin Weston scoring.



Cowbridge RFC end season with win in bizarre circumstances!

COWBRIDGE travelled to Ferndale last Saturday, determined to finish the season on a high, and registered their second double of the season and fourth win in five games.

The Cowbridge pack were soon on top, but Ferndale drew first blood with a penalty after 10 minutes.

Cowbridge hit back immediately with a penalty and were soon back into the Ferndale 22 with some superb forward drives, led by Luke Adams, Steve Birchenough and Ross Llewellyn.

After a period of intense pressure, wing Liam Rowlands broke through the Ferndale defence, allowing the forwards to take the ball on for flanker Carwyn Davies to crash over for a fine converted try.

A penalty to Cowbridge five minutes later was followed by a Ferndale drop goal. Within three minutes,

Cowbridge were back on the scoreboard as young player of the year, Jac Williams, crashed over for Cowbridge's second converted try.

Cowbridge then conceded a try on the stroke of halftime to slightly spoil a very good first half.

The second half started disastrously for Cowbridge with a second-minute Ferndale try.

However, Cowbridge were soon back on the attack and strong running by centre Luke Boys led to a Cowbridge scrum 10 yards from the Ferndale line. Cowbridge shoved the home pack back over their line for a great pushover try by flanker Ross Llewellyn.

Ferndale came back with a penalty, which was followed by two Cowbridge penalties, to give Cowbridge a 12-point lead with just seven minutes to go – or so it seemed.

However, the game went on for another 24 minutes, and though Cowbridge were still leading 33-21 at 'full time', in the 17 minutes

of extra time there was a flurry of penalties, yellow cards, and, as the Cowbridge pack tired following their great effort during the previous 80 minutes, two unconverted Ferndale tries.

So, the final score was Ferndale 31 Cowbridge 33.

This was breathtaking stuff and yet again Cowbridge showed great spirit to hang on, having played some excellent rugby in normal time.

Well done to the boys who have given everything in a difficult season and finished on a high with some sterling victories. Thanks to all those who have supported the club throughout the season – players, coaches, backroom staff, the faithful supporters and everyone else.

Finally, the annual dinner takes place at the clubhouse on Friday, May 20 with guest speaker Kingsley Jones. There are a limited number of places still available; contact Nick Jones on 07790 887680 if interested.

RV/RK

Lack of numbers take toll on West Wales XI

EVERY junior team in every league shares a common problem – when there is a shortage of players it is with them that the buck stops.

Bank holidays, weddings, Duke of Edinburgh award schemes, etc, left the club very short for April 30, and furthermore, five West Wales team members were elevated to the second team.

A somewhat depleted and orthopaedically-challenged West Wales side met a strong Port Talbot team on the school pitch, and a similar depleted team was denied an opportunity to improve matters when, on May 7, the outfield of the opposition's side had not been cut and the game was cancelled.

Having lost every toss last year, the captain won in a situation where he could take no advantage.

He had only eight players at start of play so had to bat, despite the three missing (not all their own fault!) being numbers one two and three.

The captain therefore opened and struggled with the Port Talbot opening bowlers to a score of 18 for 2. At this point, Jon Brazier focused on a rescue, despite a broken toe and

a runner by kind permission of the opposition, the injury having preceded the game.

Anyone who plays cricket knows what a nightmare it is relying on a runner, as it is for the runner themselves. Tim Moss, having had his own innings, then ran for Brazier's well-hit 40 runs.

George Brown gave sterling support and scored 29, but sadly there were no runs from the tail apart from Matthew Keating's patient 13. The side was all out for 153.

There was a welcome change in the Cowbridge bowling attack with the arrival of Rafi Shrizard from Afghanistan who, in the brief period he has played cricket, has developed hugely and shows immense determi-

nation. He is naturally fast and his accuracy is improving all the time.

Port Talbot, however, had two batsmen who one would think would be more at home in a first team than the West Wales side, and Port Talbot made the Cowbridge total with only two wickets down.

Their innings was enlivened by some intriguing lbw decisions, the pros and cons of which fortunately balanced out, and by a catch at deep mid wicket by George Brown, which was not only a superb catch but also the successful result of a carefully laid trap with Matthew Keating, the bowler.

We hope for a more rewarding game against Pontardawe this week.

DW

Lions trio reunite for awards night

THREE of London Welsh's 1971 British & Irish Lions winning side were reunited at Old Deer Park last week for the club's awards night, when the club's managing director, John Taylor, was joined by 1971 captain and club president John

Daves and Mervyn Davies, who was guest speaker on the night. The trio, along with JPR Williams, Gerald Davies, Geoff Evans and Mike Roberts, formed part of a seven strong London Welsh contingent, which helped the Lions to what remains their only ever series win in New Zealand.



John Howell secured a gold!

Gold and silver for Karate club

THE Welsh Karate League held its annual final on April 9 at the Cogan Leisure Centre in Penarth.

After a year of tournaments throughout Wales, two members of the Cowbridge Karate Club were awarded trophies for their age categories.

John Howell came first in kata (age 9 and 10, 5th kyu and below) and kumite (age 8 and 9, any grade). His performances against some very tough opposition throughout the year showed a quality and maturity way beyond his age and his gold medal positions were well-deserved.

Hatim Shami came overall second in kumite in the category of age 12 and 13 boys of any

grade. His feisty performances and good fighting techniques made him a worthy winner of the silver medal.

Members of Cowbridge Karate Club also showed some great skills at their spring training weekend at the Welsh Institute of Sport, Sophia Gardens.

Martyn Thomas was awarded his 3rd Dan after a weekend of awe-inspiring karate. Simon Jones showed great skill and determination to achieve his 1st Dan, and Junior 1st Dan, Rosie Warfield, was equally impressive in reaching the level of Senior 1st Dan.

If anyone is interested in joining our club, have a look at our website - www.cjkk.co.uk - or telephone Mora Garside on 01446 775202.

MG

Struggle for the bowlers in opening games

COWBRIDGE Bowling Club got down to serious business this week.

The ladies played their first Cowbridge Shield match, away to Porthcawl ladies, losing 45-58.

Skip Pauline McAllen's rink of Mary Thomas, Thelma Jones and Pat Davey were the only winning rink by 15-12.

Other scores – Helena Snelling's team lost 13-21 and Joy Woolford's team lost 17-25.

The men then played their first Munro Cup match, away to Penarth Windsor, and lost 55-79.

The only winning rink was Dennis Snelling's with a 24-13 win. Other team members were Ron Frayling, Colin Wilson and Brian Kent.

New skip Steve Dickens' rink had a close game, only losing 14-17, but Byron Richards (8-25) and Norman Wilkinson (9-24) went down badly.

On the Thursday, the ladies went to Barry Athletic for their first league match, only just losing 42-50.

In a close game, Joan Bradley's rink of Lynda

Wilson, Kay Edwards and Helena Snelling won 16-13, and captain May Jones' rink with Glenys Davies, Joy Woolford and Shirley Wilkinson only just lost 19-20. Pat Davey's rink lost 7-17.

The men then played their Carruthers Shield match at home to Gilfach Goch. In a very close match, Cowbridge were losing on three of the four rinks, with only Dennis Snelling's rink of Mansel Davey, Ron Woolford and John Jones winning well.

After a break for tea and refreshments, Cowbridge started to pull back and finally won 88-75.

Rink scores: Dennis Snelling's rink won well 25-13, as did Norman Wilkinson's rink 28-21, and David Jones' rink pulled back from 4-14 down to win 23-17.

The only rink to lose was Roger Barwick's, by 12-24.

A good win in the first of our round robin matches.

NJW

Dinas FC dig in against the pacy YMCA attackers

THIS was a hard-fought game, Dinas deserving the point with a much improved performance on their last game, against a YMCA side who had plenty of pace.

The visitors started well and as early as the first minute, Dan Edwards headed wide from a corner.

Dinas showed that they could also cause YMCA problems when Gareth Tedstone's cross was headed against the bar by Mike Hayward, and shortly after Barrie Gunstone headed just over from another Tedstone cross.

It was the home side who opened the scoring when a free-kick found Gunstone on the right. He escaped the defence and crossed for Ricki Morgan to pick his spot with a volley from 12 yards.

Dinas keeper Richard Jefferies proved his worth, saving with his feet from Oliver Beckett and five minutes later, the referee blew for half-time with the visitors a little unfortunate to be a goal down.

YMCA went on the attack straight from the kick-off, with Dan Edwards providing the cross but Oliver Beckett unable to get his header on target.

DINAS POWYS NEWPORT YMCA

1
1

Dinas fought back with Gareth Tedstone feeding Ricki Morgan, but his effort was deflected away from goal.

YMCA had another header hit an upright before they finally found the back of the net through substitute John Pardue's 15-yard shot, following a strong run from halfway by Beckett. Dinas saw out the remainder of the half with neither side able to get the winning goal.

Squad: Richard Jefferies, Rhodri Foote, Ben Dimond, Mike Hayward, Dave Peniket, Jon Carpenter, Ricki Morgan, Callum McKenzie, Barrie Gunstone, Gareth Tedstone, Oli Dalton. **Subs:** Danny Street, Rhys Davies, Stephen Provis, Mark Dunford.

stepping down from day to day involvement in the running of the club due to work commitments, and the club is inviting enquiries and applications for a number of positions on the committee, with club secretary being the primary role to be filled, hopefully by June.

No experience or qualification is necessary, as full guidance and written instructions will be available, as well as support as required. The role may suit an existing club secretary, or indeed anyone – male or female – willing and able to give a couple of hours a week for a rewarding role in a friendly, successful club, that has been at the heart of the local community for approximately 40 years.

SECRETARY REQUIRED WITH the season in its final month, Dinas Powys FC's Welsh League first team and youth team are both challenging at the top of their respective leagues, and planning for next season has begun.

Secretary and vice chairman Dave Jose is

Anyone interested should contact Dave Jose at david.jose@talk-talk.net, or 07973 488718.

NEWS FROM THE BRYNHILL LADIES

Qualifying success for the first team



Ladies first team which qualified for Welsh team championships, left to right: Gemma Evans, Ann Phillips, Sam Pascoe (capt), Helene Cook and Lynne Bubbins.

ON Monday, April 15, Brynhill ladies' first team won their match against Dinas Powys 3-2 at Wenvoe to qualify for the Welsh team championships at Aberystwyth in June.

The following week, the first team also won their first league match against Llanwrnwy 3-2.

The ladies' second team had a convincing home win, 3½-1½, against Clyne on April 15.

Other results: March 22 – 18 hole turkey trot: winner, Maria Gentile with 35 points.

March 29 – Easter egg competition: winner, Margaret Codd with 37 points; runner-up, Julie Harkin 34 points.

April 5 – Lady Reardon Smith medal foursomes: winner, Lynda

Lloyd and Liz Taylor, net 80; runners-up, Linda Hewlett and Jenny Pateman, net 84.

April 12 – Challenge Bowl (silver and bronze): silver winner, Jan Robertson, 70 net; bronze winner, Hilary West, 77 net.

April 19 – Australian Spoons foursomes: winners, Carole Bumford and Maria Gentile, 41 points; runners-up, Margaret Codd and Julie Morgan, 39 points.

April 26 – Rose Bowl (against par): winner, Sheila Williams (+3); second, Robbie Lee (+2).

Forthcoming events: May 19 – 10 hole charity coffee morning; July 2 – 18 hole Ladies open (team of three); August 5 – Ladies day out at Woodlake Park.

JP

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Local MG dealer among the first to have the new MG6

MG specialists MG Cardiff is one of the first MG dealers in the country to take delivery of an exciting new MG6 sports fastback.

Chris Sawyer was given a civic send off by Mike Whitty, the leader of Birmingham City Council, during a ceremony outside the city's Council House.

Mike Whitty joined with MG Motor UK's Sales & Marketing Director, Guy Jones, in toasting the success of the new model.

Earlier Chris Sawyer collected the car from MG Motor UK's factory at the MG Birmingham site. The MG6 is the first all-new MG to be built in the UK in 16 years.

Mr Sawyer said: "We are delighted to be one of the first MG dealers in the country to have an MG6 to show to our customers and we've already received a huge amount of interest in the new model."

"Having driven it back from Birmingham I can now see what all the fuss is about. It's a brilliant car and has that dynamic driving quality that marks it out as a true MG."

The sports fastback model was designed and engineered by a team of professionals at the UK plant.

Three trim models of the 1.8-litre



■ Guy Jones, MG Motor UK's Sales & Marketing Director (left) and Coun Mike Whitty, the leader of Birmingham City Council (right) with Chris Sawyer of MG Cardiff get a civic send off

turbocharged petrol MG6 are available with prices ranging from £15,495 to £18,995 for the top-of-the-range highly-equipped TSE model.

As well as have a very high level of standard equipment, the MG6 has particularly low levels of insurance. The entry model MG6 S is rated 13E while the SE and TSE are 14E - comparable rivals are several categories above, making the MG particularly attractive from an insurance perspective.



■ The new MG6 cars are lined up in front of Birmingham Council house ready for the Civic send off.

THE NEW MG, 16 YEARS IN THE MAKING

THERE'S little room for sentimentality in the motoring business. Your average car buyer may get all misty eyed when recalling their first four wheeled ticket to freedom, but snap back to reality and there are few people willing to spend their hard earned on a nostalgia trip.

It is this harsh reality that faces the MG6, the first offering from the rejuvenated MG Motor Company that is back selling new cars in the UK. The previous few years have seen the development of the business and its facilities alongside limited production of the MG TF. But now it is back with a brand new product and a production line in the UK, albeit for completion in Birmingham rather than starting from scratch. The MG6 is a mid-sized hatch that sits between the traditional C and D segments think Ford Focus and Mercedes handily priced near the former but with space approaching the latter.

It's a good summation of MG's approach for its new beginning: paying homage to driving enjoyment like its cars of old but underlined with value. It's certainly an attractive car on first meeting. There's very little in the way of harking back to the past: this is a modern exterior design, and stands up well to rivals that have the benefit of vast resources.

Look closely and you can see the barrel sided effect last seen on the Rover 75 which helps the strong stance, and although it is less pretty

from the near MG have done a fine job of creating a modern interpretation of the brand.

Climb inside and there is an immediate feeling of space. With a crucial extra few centimetres over the standard C segment template the MG6 offers a little bit more, although this is somewhat tempered by the choice of dark colours for the cabin finishes.

The dashboard layout is broadly conventional with clear instruments and a centre stack carrying all the major controls.

Premium seeking customers may be a little disappointed: the MG6's cabin plastics are a little mixed and a shade behind Korean rivals although the actual build quality appears very sound. Equipment levels are certainly above standard however, with the top spec TSE models getting satellite navigation, climate control, Bluetooth and a reversing camera as standard. Even the entry level S model is well kitted out, giving the MG6 a large dose of showroom appeal.

At launch the engine range is limited to a 1.8 litre turbo charged petrol unit producing 158bhp, and while some will be searching in vain for a diesel option from the start, the petrol does have a lot going for it. Regardless of model the 1.8 litre unit is matched to a five speed manual gearbox driving the front wheels, and in keeping with the sporting edge to the MG brand it gives the MG6 a strong turn of speed. With a 0-62mph



■ Powered by 158 bhp. The MG6 will hit 60mph in just 8.4 seconds.

sprint time of 8.4 seconds it is comfortably rapid if not hot hatch quick, but on a suitable stretch of road it has more than enough power to make the journey interesting. Driven in a more sedate fashion it is respectably refined, but when stretched to deliver maximum performance noise levels do increase.

That will be of little relevance however when the first bend looms in the windscreen, because the MG6 is certainly worthy of its well known badge thanks to the responsive and able steering and suspension. Initially the steering is surprisingly heavy, but after a few miles it becomes clear this is

merely a reflection of the accuracy and consistency it offers. Even when driving in town or in traffic, well weighted controls are less taxing for the driver. And when the conditions are just right, the MG6 thrives on challenging bends and demanding conditions.

More important however is the fact that the MG6 is spacious, fun to drive and well specified. With prices starting at £15,495 for the impressive S model it stands fair comparison with other high value brands that can't offer such a good driving experience. For that reason alone, the MG6 is worthy of careful consideration.



■ The new MG6 interior has above standard equipment levels.

Cadoxton bowlers make Cup progress

Cadoxton v Central (Munro Cup)
ON a bright but cold night,

Cadoxton visited Central for the first Munro Cup match of the season.

It finished with two winning rinks each, but Cadoxton recorded a far better aggregate. The captains skipped against each other, with

Graham Brown's four all playing a part in an outstanding success against Joe Bratcher's rink. A six in the early

stages, followed shortly by two fours, ensured the big win.

Don Kuhnell skipped his rink against Alan Davies and prevented them from scoring for eight ends, although both sets of players played well.

This trend continued throughout the game, with all of Don's rink keeping up the pressure, to allow the opposition just four singles.

Howard Craven seemed to be skipping his rink to a further success, when leading 15-8 with four ends left.

However, Ted Hudd rallied his team to double their score over the final ends to win by one shot.

Kelvin Chedzoy was matched with John Jones and in a closely fought game, the score reached 13-14.

The visitors stuck on this fateful number for the next three ends before a single was scored on the last.

P Ellis, G Davies I Robertson, G Brown 31; A Rockey, A Kennedy, D Jeynes, J Bratcher 7.

S Clarke, R Cole, L Davies, H Craven 15; T Cage, C Grey, K Ford, E Hudd 16.

T Bishop, G Solomon, A Carpenter, D Kuhnell 22; G Young, C Ditchburn, H Spencer, A Davies 4.

R Knight, J Stewart, M Curtis, K Chedzoy 14; G Davies, D Brewer, G Thomas, J Jones 17.

Final score, 82-44. Cadoxton v Bridgend Municipal - Carruthers

THE opening game in the Carruthers was

played at home, on a heavy green, and the result was a defeat by Bridgend Municipal.

Two winning rinks, and one defeated by just one shot was not enough, after a heavy defeat on the remaining one.

Don Kuhnell skipped his rink against the experienced Ken Adams and the intriguing match, with the lead changing hands continuously, was eventually won by the home team by opening a gap over the final three ends.

Graham Brown also had a win, although it was completed with a measure on the final end with the scores level.

The surprising thing about this match was that the away side were prevented from scoring during the first eight ends when the score was 13-0.

Not for the first time, a team has stuck on this score, and the opposition drew level. It was then their turn to stick while a five-shot lead was built against them.

However, they recovered to level it on the penultimate end.

Kelvin Chedzoy met another old campaigner, Arthur Hunter, and trailed 3-11 after eight ends.

However, this deficit was overcome before the final end, when a single to the visitors

won the game.

The rink skipped by Howard Craven never got going and after 14 ends trailed 4-20, and although a two stopped the rot, it was temporary and the gap increased to 6-26 before a further two made a slight difference.

P Ellis, G Davies, I Robertson, G Brown 21; O Phillips, D Battits, J Morse, D Stephens 20.

D Tuck, J Crout, D Brook, H Craven 8; B Jones, B Goddard, E Murphy, D Vincent 27. T Bishop, D Evans, J Davies, D Kuhnell 24; P Anderson, T Jones, C James, K Adams 19.

G Solomon, W Vaughan, L Cundliffe, K Chedzoy 15; D Goddard, R Martin, M Jones, A Hunter 16.

Final score, 68-82.

Cadoxton A v Millwood A - SVL

The A side travelled across town to meet Millwood A in the SVL, where they completed a resounding victory over the home side.

Roy Harding skipped his rink to a 34-shot success against Arthur Norris.

This was no contest, with a five, two fours and six threes included in this massive score.

John Stewart also had an exceptional win,

topping the 30 mark, against John Mellor.

A total of 14 were scored without reply over the first six ends, and although the deficit was reduced, a finish which included two fours and a three completed the defeat.

Mike Curtis and Gerald Kerslake skipped a much closer game during the first half of the game, but a surge over the later stages ensured the result went in favour of the visitors.

Alan Carpenter came up against Bryn Webb, with the latter taking a 9-0 lead after four ends.

By the 11th and 14th ends the scores were level, and run of singles during the closing ends prevented the white-wash.

G Powell, J Maidment, I Dunbar, J Stewart, 31; K Davies, J Marsh, A Hardwick, J Mellor 14.

R Doble, K Tanner, R Cole, A Carpenter 14; H Hodgkinson, C Selley, E Marks, B Webb 18.

L Adams, S Clements, A Turner, R Harding 40; J Marks, J Rolfe, M Williams, C Norris 6.

B Knight, S Pycroft, M Matthews, M Curtis 24; J Butler, G Whitehouse, C Mallows, G Kerslake 16.

Final score, 109-54. DK

Barry Wanderers grab victory against Lisvane

BARRY Wanderers travelled down to Lisvane Cricket Club on May bank holiday Monday to play their regular pre-season friendly at the Cardiff outpost of St Mellons Golf Club.

Wanderers were giving debuts to a few new faces as the cricket season gets going for another summer.

As skipper for the day, Chris Barnes strode out to the wicket with Lisvane captain Mike Caplan for the customary toss. Lisvane duly elected to bat in a 40-over game and openers Peter Allen and Holloway started to find the gaps in the field with ease.

Wanderers opening bowlers Nandan and Ridgwell gave way to Chris Sanders and Neekanti, but the Lisvane boys went on a 50 partnership which came up in the 14th over and 100 came in the 23rd.

The breakthrough finally came when Barnes replaced Neekanti with debutant Kunal, who had Holloway stumped by 'keeper Reddy for a fine 69.

Kunal, in the same over, then removed Bevan for a duck, caught at square leg by Phil Wolfenden and Lisvane were 'now rocking' at 138-2 in the 29th over!

Peter Allen was then needlessly run out for a flowing 53. Layne was caught by Ridgwell off the bowling of Barnes for 8, and it was left to Ray Lashway to clatter some lusty blows at the end of the Lisvane innings, finishing with 28 not out as the home side completed their 40 overs with their score at 189-5.

After the interval, both Wanderers opening batsmen were making their debuts Damien Davies and Krishna Nandan made a cautious start against the Lisvane opening attack of Akram and Caplan until Nandan, deciding to move the score along quicker, hit

Caplan for 18 in his third over.

Davies then wanted to join the party and he too was helping himself to some lovely shots through the covers.

These two had moved the score on to 71 by the 14th over when Nandan missed a straight one and was bowled by Lisvane skipper Caplan for a fine 36.

Nimesh Reddy then joined Davies at the crease and they both started hitting the boundary at will. For Davies, in particular, a very nervous time saw him get his 50 with a pull through mid wicket to the joy of the rest of the team.

Reddy nearly caught Davies up at one stage, and as the match was coming to its finale, Reddy passed his 50 with a six over extra cover.

Davies and Reddy put on 122 for the second wicket as Barry Wanderers finished on 193-1 in the 30th over to easily overcome the Lisvane total and win by nine wickets.

Damien Davies finished the match on 61 not out and Nimesh Reddy was 59 not out.

A fabulous day's cricket - well done Barry Wanderers! SofaSofa man of the match went narrowly to Damien Davies.

AF

Tiger wins!

OUTSIDER of four Siberian Tiger, trained by Evan Williams at Llanccarfan, landed the novices' chase at Haydock on Saturday.

Well ridden by Paul Moloney, the 6-1 chance got home by head from the favourite Red Harbour.

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Big crowd expected at Llangeinor Hunt races

A BIG crowd is expected at the Llangeinor Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Laleston on Saturday.

Some good class horses have been entered and these include the prolific *Lady Myfanwy*, *Findlay's Find*, *Minsgill Mans*, *Ask The Thatcher* and *Carbon Emission*. There will be seven races and two pony races and the first race is at 2pm.

Meanwhile, there was no shortage of runners at the Tredegar Farmers at Lower Machen where the course had been well watered throughout the week.

Riders described the going as good and one or two even said it was soft!

Favourite backers got off to a good start when Michael McMahon's seven-year-old bay mare *Princess De Rome*, partnered by Nick Williams, came home eight lengths ahead of *One To Note* (Marc Barber) in the Members' race.

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

The Restricted was a much closer affair with Roger Willcox's nine-year-old bay gelding *Ace High Blue* scoring by a length from *Backstreet Lad* (Nathan Deakin) after jumping the last when just in front.

The odds-on favourite *Beyond Dreams*, ridden by Richard Woolcott, after leading for most of the way, went backwards during the closing stages and was pulled up.

Ace High Blue's rider Josh Harris (23) rides out for Vale trainer Evan Williams. Bradley Gibbs, who had celebrated his 17th birthday four days earlier, won the confined on *Cinaman*, a seven-year-old bay gelding, which his father David had bought for him and, like the runner-up, used to be trained by Tim Vaughan.

Cinaman and *Brinkmanship* (Tom David), now trained by Vaughan's wife Abbi, jumped the last together and the former went on to win by two

lengths.

Hunt-racing stalwart Edna Hussey (92) was delighted when her *Bob Bites Back* came home one-and-a-half lengths ahead of 50-1 outsider *Cottage River* (Paul Tolman) in the men's open after the pair had jumped the last almost together.

Unfortunately, *Stoneriggs Merc*, who was going for a three-timer, was brought down when *Manor Park* fell at the second. *Bob Bites Back* could next run in what used to be known as the Horse & Hound Cup at Stratford.

Another horse which could be Stratford bound is *Baren De Doc* who, under Lucy Pearce Rowsell, won for the third time on the bounce in the ladies' open race.

Jumping the last in front, the Charlotte Owen trained eight-year-old bay gelding, won by four lengths from *City Breeze* (Jodie Hughes).

The two-and-a-half mile maiden race went

to Mark Jackson's six-year-old bay gelding *SamTheMan* who made every post a winning one and who had 12 lengths to spare over *Shwitzer* (Nathan Deakin).

This was Mark's only ride at the meeting and he has been successful on the only other two times he has ridden over the Lower Machen course.

In the open maiden, the Charlotte Owen trained *John Clayton*, ridden by Mathew Barber (19) proved too speedy for *Clongeen Allstar* partnered by Mathew's older brother Marc aged 27.

A former inmate of Rebecca Curtis's yard and bought locally from Grant Lewis, *John Clayton* scored by two lengths.

Mollyann Rees (10), a member of the Glamorgan Hunt Pony Club, won the six furlongs pony race on her 12-year-old mare *Mon Mellissa* and Jordan Williams (12) was successful in the nine furlongs pony race on his mother Beth's 11-year-old bay mare *Tommy's Girl*.

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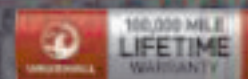
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10 10 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi (140ps) titanium 5-dr MPV. In moon dust silver with ebony alcantara leather interior, quick-clear screen, climate control, cruise control, phone prep, sports front bumper, one owner, only 8,290 miles.....£19,995

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10 59 VOLVO XC90 D5 AWD Se Premium Geartronic 5-dr in black sapphire with off black leather sports interior, sat nav, in-car phone, radio/cd, privacy glass, roof rack, only 29,870 miles.....£29,995

07 07 NISSAN X-Trial 2.5i Automatic Colombia 5-dr Station Wagon. In kuro black with warp grey interior, climate control, multi cd, alloy wheels, privacy glass, service history, electric sunroof, only 43,265 miles.....£9,995
03 53 SUZUKI Jimny 1.2 02 Edition 3dr Soft Top Convertible. In black with anthracite interior, CD, electric windows, alloy wheels, only 36,700 miles.....£4,995

HONDA

09 59 HONDA Civic 1.4i-Vtec Type S 3-dr hatchback in milano grey with half suede interior, cd, traction control, immobiliser, alarm, alloy wheels, only 16,970 miles.....£12,495
07 56 HONDA Civic 1.8i-VTEC EX 5-dr Hatchback in bluish silver with black sport suede interior, alloy wheels, cruise control, automatic air con, sat nav, only 33,280 miles.....£9,495
03 53 HONDA Civic 1.6 Vtec SE Sport 3-dr Hatchback. In Aqua green, half black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, heated electric mirrors, CD, only 46,400 miles.....£4,995

SPORTS

09 58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 16v (140ps) SRI 3-dr Sports Hatch. In technical grey with charcoal alpha cloth interior, air con, 17" alloy wheels, front fogs, ESP, immobiliser, only 26,850 miles.....£9,995
09 09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite in graphite grey with black interior compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles.....£13,495
07 57 PEUGEOT 207 1.6HDi 110 sport 5-dr hatchback. In onyx black with black/grey interior, air con, cd, electric windows and mirrors, front fog, ISOFIX anchorage points, only 57,000 miles.....£6,495
07 57 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDI DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback. In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 38,598 miles.....£11,995
06 56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 16v 2-dr twin top coupe in black sapphire with alpha charcoal interior, air con, alarm, immobiliser, electric windows, only 42,890 miles.....£6,595
06 56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSI (170ps) FT 5-dr in reflex silver metallic with siemera anthracite interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles.....£9,995

06 06 BMW Z4 2.0i SE Roadster 2-dr convertible. In silver grey with spirit black interior, anti-lock brakes, automatic air con, front fogs, electric windows, only 33,565 miles.....£11,995
05 05 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 T Fsi (200ps) GTI 5-dr Hatchback in tornador red with anthracite Vienna leather interior, parking sensors, heated front seats, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 67,600 miles.....£9,995

05 55 BMW 1 Series 2.0TD 118d Sport 5-dr Hatchback. In sapphire black with anthracite interior, CD, climate control, alloy wheels, front fogs, only 52,000 miles.....£10,495
05 55 RENAULT Megane 1.6Vti 115 privilege 2-dr coupe cabriolet. In red with beige interior, dash mounted multi cd, alloy wheels, climate controls, body coloured bumpers, front fogs, only 49,110 miles.....£5,495

05 55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible. In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles.....£4,995
05 05 MAZDA 3 Sport 2.0 5-dr Hatchback. In winning blue with ebony cloth, 17" alloy wheels, climate control, multi CD, front fogs, only 57,390 miles.....£5,995

03 53 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 2.0 2-dr convertible. In aquarius blue with anthracite interior, air con, electronic stability programme traction control system, alloy wheels, only 78,653 miles.....£6,995

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10 10 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi (140ps) titanium 5-dr MPV. In moon dust silver with ebony alcantara leather interior, quick-clear screen, climate control, cruise control, phone prep, sports front bumper, one owner, only 8,290 miles.....£19,995

09 59 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi (140) Zetec 5-dr Hatchback in stardust silver with ebony interior, bluetooth phone prep, traction control system, air con, quick clear screen, cruise control, only 31,910 miles.....£12,995

08 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4i 16v Club Automatic 5-Dr Hatchback. In metro blue with cable charcoal interior, air con, radio/CD, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 26,000 miles.....£7,995

08 08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles.....£7,995

08 08 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-Dr Hatchback. In tango red with anthracite interior, quick clear screen, air con, CD, aux input, alloy wheels, only 10,700 miles.....£6,995

08 58 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 HDi Desire 5-dr MPV. In oriental blue with black interior, ISOFIX anchorage point, air con, front electric windows, only 36,740 miles.....£7,995

07 57 SEAT Altea XL 1.9 TDI Stylance in metallic ruby red with stylance grey interior, rear parking sensors, cd, climate control, cruise control, aux input, only 49,100 miles.....£8,495

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07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback. In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles.....£7,495

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06 06 AUDI A4 2.0TDi S-line 4-dr saloon in brilliant red with monial black interior, climate control, body coloured bumpers, radio/cd, service history, only 74,400 miles.....£3,995

05 55 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 Desire 2.5-dr MPV in oriental blue with dark interior, air con, power steering, electric windows, service history, one owner, only 62,000 miles.....£4,995

05 55 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0TDCi Ghia 5-dr MPV. In tonic blue with ebony interior, cruise control, air con, alloy wheels, immobiliser, alarm, only 63,990 miles.....£5,995

05 55 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.8 CDX Automatic 4-dr saloon in pearl black with bluish grey leather interior, climate control, cd, auto-changer, front fog lights, anti lock brakes, only 64,450 miles.....£3,995

05 55 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 16v Club Automatic. In moonland grey, with charcoal interior, alloy wheels, air con, immobiliser, power steering, only 62,200 miles.....£5,250

04 04 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 Twist Auto 5-dr hatchback in met blue with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 37,760 miles.....£4,995

04 04 FORD Mondeo Ghia 5-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with ebony interior, 6-CD changer, automatic air con, alarm, immobiliser, alloy wheels, only 53,000 miles.....£4,995

SMALL

09 58 VAUXHALL Corsa SXI 1.4 16v 3-dr hatchback. In silver with ghia charcoal interior, air con, alloy wheels, cd, immobiliser, only 42,400 miles.....£7,995

09 09 FORD Ka 1.2 Zetec 3-dr hatchback. In dive blue with grey interior, air con, quickclear screen, aux input, alloy wheels, cd, only 22,960 miles.....£7,795

09 09 CITROEN C1 1.4 HDi VTR 5-dr Hatchback in metallic blue with grey interior, radio/CD, ABS, power steering, elec front windows, £20 a year road tax, only 14,500 miles.....£7,495

08 58 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr Hatchback. In mighty blue with grey interior, air con, central locking, CD, front electric windows, ISOFIX, only 26,560 miles.....£3,995

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08 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4i 16v Club Automatic 5-dr Hatchback. In metro blue with cable charcoal interior, air con, radio/CD, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 26,000 miles.....£7,995

08 57 FORD Fusion 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr hatchback auto. In amethyst with grey interior, alloy wheels, air con, immobiliser, quick clear front screen, power steering, only 22,000 miles.....£6,495

08 08 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Blue 3-dr hatchback in ocean blue with Koyoto blue interior, quickclear front screen, cd, aux input, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 30,720 miles.....£6,995

08 08 FORD KA Studio. In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles.....£8,495

06 56 FIAT Panda 1.2 Dynamic Duologic 5-dr In Guacamole green with yellow Move interior, air con, CD, central locking, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 30,500 miles.....£4,495

06 56 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 Atlantic 3-dr hatchback. In sky blue with dark grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, front fogs, body coloured bumpers, alarm, 27,820 miles.....£4,450

06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Campus Spor 3-dr Hatchback in mercury silver with extreme grey interior, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, alloy wheels, only 58,520 miles.....£3,995

05 55 TOYOTA Yaris 13 XVt-i Colour Collectionn 3-dr hatchback in eclipse black with black/red interior, body coloured bumpers, power steering, alloy wheels, radio/cd, only 65,000 miles.....£4,495

05 55 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Expression 3-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with grey interior, air con, CD, panoramic roof, only 49,600 miles.....£4,495

05 55 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 5-dr hatchback in panther black with Kompass interior quick clear screen, air con, alloy wheels, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 47,440 miles.....£4,495

04 04 PEUGEOT 206 CC 2.0 SE. In silver with black leather interior, air con, power steering, electric windows, CD, alloy wheels, only 45,000 miles.....£4,995

04 04 FORD Street Ka 1.6 2-dr convertible in French blue with midnight black interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, electric mirrors, only 49,170 miles.....£4,495

04 04 FORD Ka 1.6 Sport 3-dr hatchback. Magnum grey with streetline dark interior, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, electric windows, alloy wheels, CD, only 40,955 miles.....£3,495



06 06 BMW Z4 2.0i SE Roadster 2-dr convertible. In silver grey with spirit black interior, anti-lock brakes, automatic air con, front fogs, electric windows, only 33,565 miles.....£11,995



03 53 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 2.0 2-dr convertible. In aquarius blue with anthracite interior, air con, electronic stability programme traction control system, alloy wheels, only 78,653 miles.....£6,995



06 56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 16v 2-dr twin top coupe in black sapphire with alpha charcoal interior, air con, alarm, immobiliser, electric windows, only 42,890 miles.....£6,595



04 04 FORD Street Ka 1.6 2-dr convertible in French blue with midnight black interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, electric mirrors, only 49,170 miles.....£4,495

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58	BMW 116i M-Sport Coupe in white, 19,000 miles, pristine example at	£14,995
57	BMW 523i SE. In Platinum bronze with beige trim, 24,000 miles, 1 owner, executive saloon	£12,995
56	BMW 520 Diesel SE. In black, 69,000 miles, 1 owner, a/c, alloys, etc.	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £10,995
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02	MERCEDES C180 Elegance Auto. In met-silver birch, 63,000 miles	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £3,995
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04	FORD Street Ka in electric blue, 17,000 miles, 2 owner convertible at only	£3,995
53	SUBARU Impreza 2.0 GX Sport AWD Automatic. In met blue, 45,000 miles, superb value	£3,995
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08	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SXi 5-dr in met black, 21,000 miles with a/c, alloys, etc.	£6,995
06	VW Beetle 2.0. In met blue, 49,000 miles with a/c, superb example at	£6,995
55	MINI Cooper in British racing green with white roof, low mileage example with pepper pack	£6,795
57	FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Style Climate 3-dr. In met blue, 28,000 mile diesel at	£6,495
56	SEAT Altea 1.6 Reference Sport 5-dr in silver, 33,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c	£6,495
05	MINI One. In cream with grey cloth trim, 71,000 miles with pepper pack	£6,495
56	TOYOTA Avenis T3S 2.0-4D 5-dr. In sea mist silver, 73,000 mile diesel hatch at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995
05	FORD Focus 2.0 TDCi Ghia 5-dr. In black, 70,000 miles. Top of the range diesel	£5,995
58	RENAULT Twingo 1.1 Extreme 3-dr in black, 10,000 miles, one owner, low insurance.	£5,695
07	VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Life 5-dr in silver blue met, 50,000 miles with a/c	£5,695
06	VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 CDi SXi Estate in met gunmetal grey, 74,000 miles, 1 owner diesel	£5,695
57	VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2E 3-dr in met black, low miles, low insurance	£4,995
55	FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr. In silver birch, 56,000 mile family hatch	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995
06	CITROEN Picasso 1.6 Desire. In met blue, 39,000 miles, versatile family diesel hatch	£4,995
55	FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr In black, 36,000 miles, very nice example.	£4,995
04	TOYOTA Avenis 1.8 T3-S 5-dr. In met blue, 73,000 miles, a/c, c/d, etc	£4,995
06	RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Expression in silver, low mileage example of this versatile model	£4,495
55	CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire in met grey, 48,000 miles with a/c and low insurance	£4,295
05	CITROEN C4 1.6 HDi SX 5-dr. In light met blue, 67,000 miles, diesel economy at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,995
06	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 5-dr. In electric blue, 61,000 miles with a/c, cd, alloys	£3,995
56	CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.8 Sport 5-dr in silver, 33,000 miles with full leather trim, a/c, etc	£3,995
55	VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4S 3-dr in met silver, 67,000 miles with a/c, alloys, cd, low insurance	£3,995
55	RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5-dr in electric blue, 48,000 miles, two owners	£3,995
05	FORD Fusion 2 1.6 Auto in nice blue met, low mileage hatch with easy access	£3,995
54	PEUGEOT 307 1.6S 3-dr in electric blue, 49,000 miles, alloys, CD, a/c	£3,795
07	FIAT Panda 1.1 Active in black, 49,000 miles, 1 owner with cd, low insurance	£3,695
04	FORD Fusion 1.4 '2' in silver, 53,000 miles with a/c, CD, etc	£3,695
04	FORD Fusion 2 1.4 Auto. In silver birch metallic, 44,000 miles, 1 owner	£3,495
57	CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE 5-dr. In red with cd, e/w, c/l and low insurance	£2,995
05	FORD Ka 1.3i. In met-blue, 32,000 miles, 1 lady owner	£2,995
54	RENAULT Megane 1.4 Authentique 5-dr. In met blue, 72,000 miles, 1 private owner with air con	£2,995
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Reference Sport 5-dr**

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blackhorse

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Diamondaire shines for Tony

LANTWIT MAJOR Estate agent Tony Brown saw his eight-year-old bay gelding *Diamondaire* easily land the restricted race at the Banwen Miners Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases.

Confidently ridden by Tom David, *Diamondaire* won by a distance from *Classofhisown* after *Mister Trigger* unseated Ruth Birt-Llewellyn – who was well beaten at the time – at the second last fence when chasing home the winner.

Diamondaire, who is qualified with the Pentyrch Hunt, is trained by former point-to-point rider Phil Williams and his wife Denise.

Mr Williams said: "He's a horse you have to get to know as he can be quirky at times."

Ogmore's Nick Williams made all the running on Grant Lewis's *Bobs Law* to win the three horse member's race by a distance from *Charango Star* and Cowbridge's James Tudor had a walk-over on Dai Rees's *Saint Peray* in

the Confined race.

Williams rode the favourite *Attorney General* in the Men's Open and was disputing the lead with the eventual winner *Stoneriggs Merc* when his mount slipped up on the flat after jumping the 11th fence.

The galloping grey *Stoneriggs Merc*, partnered by Joseph Williams, went on to win by five lengths from *Treasury Council*, ridden by Bradley Gibbs, with *Balearic Star*, who put in some shoddy jumps, a further 15 lengths away in third place.

The best finish of the day came in the Ladies' Open race in which *Baren De Doc*, ridden by Lucy Pearce Rowsell, held on by a neck from *Kisha King* and Anna Metekohy after the pair had jumped the last fence almost together.

Diane Leyshon's *Shake The Bottle*, ridden by her daughter Rachel, ran out early in the race.

In a match for the intermediate race, *Interpleader*, who incidentally was bred by Bridgend businessman David Brace, finished a fence in front of *Faile Arais*.

The longest priced winner of the day was 20-1 chance *Meleeha* who led from start to finish under Paul John (19), in the Open Maiden race. The runner-up, *Bartleney Queen*, finished just a length behind.

Fifteen-year-old Charlotte Prichard, whose parents Ian and Tracey hail from St Hilary, won the 14.2 hh Pony race on her six-year-old mare *Igo Zuminov*.

The 13.2 hh Pony race went to 11-year-old Lorcan Williams who was successful on his nine-year-old mare *Penway Tap Dancer*.

The Llangeinor Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases take place at Laleston near

Bridgend on Saturday (May 14). There will be seven races, with the first of them at 2pm.

There will also be two pony races after the last point-to-point race has taken place.

Minsgill Mans wins Crudwell Cup again

Minsgill Mans, owned and trained by Merthyr Mawr's Jonathan

Tudor, and partnered by Cowbridge's James Tudor, won the four-mile Crudwell Cup at the Radnor & West Hereford Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Cold Harbour.

Winner of the race in 2007 and 2009, the 13-year-old gelding held on by a head from *Taste Like More*, and his owner/trainer said: "He needs trips nowadays as he's lost his toe."

At the Berkeley Hunt Point-To-Point at Woodford, Simon Jones's *Roseyroo*, who, like *Minsgill Mans*, is qualified with the Llangeinor Hunt, won the Open Maiden at odds of 50-1!

The four-year-old, who was ridden by Jody Sole, was running for the first time and beat *Shy John* by a neck.

More Welsh success was to come at this meeting as Mrs Jodie Pearn's *Floridahal*, ridden by Tom David, won the intermediate by a head from *Fassaroe* and Nick Williams won the Mixed Open on Steve Whistance's *Overlur*.

Pelham Crescent *Pelham Crescent*,

trained by Bryn Palling at Tredodridge, Pendoylan, set a new course record at Ffos Las Racecourse when winning the Trainers' Champagne Handicap over one-mile and two-furlongs.

Ridden by Declan Cannon, eight-year-old *Pelham Crescent* won by three parts of a length from *Shabak Hom* in a field of nine runners.

Tim's Irish big race win **ABERTHIN'S Tim** **Vaughan picked up another big prize** when his *Spirit Of Adjisa* landed the Cathal Ryan Memorial Champion Novice Hurdle at Punchestown in Ireland last week.

The 16-1 outsider, ridden by Richard Johnson, won by a short head from *Prima Vista* and is now unbeaten in three starts.

Vaughan has made

those critics, who said he was just a summer racing trainer, eat their words as Saturday's success was his third big race win this spring.

He won the Scottish Grand National with *Beshabar* and scored at the Aintree Festival meeting with *Saint Are*.

Tim, a former Welsh champion point-to-point rider, said: "To be fair if you look back at his form before he joined me he was placed behind *Oscar Whisky* and *Finian's Rainbow*, so that form has worked out so well."

"It's been an amazing four weeks or so for everyone concerned with the yard, with *Saint Are*, *Beshabar* and now *Spirit Of Adjisa* has really put us in the spotlight."

Vaughan, in the short time that he has been training, can now claim to have saddled winners in Wales, England, Scotland and now Ireland, and there are not many Welsh-based trainers who have achieved that distinction.

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GEM sport

HOSTS GRAB DESERVED THREE POINTS AS...

Dinas slips to narrow defeat against Bettws

AFTER a pretty successful April, with Dinas taking 16 points from a possible 24 and putting themselves in a good position to challenge for a promotion place, they seem to have lost their way somewhat with just a point taken from the two games in May.

This was always going to be a difficult game and so it proved, with the hosts deserving the win, creating more scoring opportunities and keeping the ball better.

Bettws, with the wind in their favour, showed their intention right from the start with two speculative shots from outside the box, comfortably taken by Manny Djornor.

With Dinas finding it difficult to clear their lines, they were under pressure for long spells in the half.

The closest the hosts came to scoring was a shot from Morgan Thomas, which rebounded off an upright.

Gareth Tedstone was using his pace well for the visitors and put in a fine run and cross to the far post which somehow eluded the head of Barrie Gunstone and ran out of play.

Djornor had to be alert again just before the break, blocking a point blank shot from Lee Greenhall while another effort from Douglas Johnwile was just wide.

Dinas had the wind advantage in the second half but were still under pressure at times, with Djornor making a great save from Johnwile and

BETTWS DINAS POWYS

a header from the same player from a corner was just off target.

Dinas got their best chance of the game when a diagonal ball found Tedstone wide on the left.

He cut inside his marker and his shot almost went through keeper Mark Elliott's legs, but he was able to clear the danger.

Manager Marc Cahill then rang the changes, bringing on Ricki Morgan, Callum McKenzie and Joe Briscoe, and Dinas began to get on top at last.

A fine run and cross from Morgan was just cut out at full stretch by Elliott.

Then, a free kick by Morgan was caught by Elliott and his clearance found Josh Ellis, who evaded the Dinas rear-guard to fire home a low shot from 12 yards for

the only goal of the game, Djornor getting a hand to it.

With 10 minutes remaining Dinas pressed hard and Joe Briscoe headed a Morgan free kick just over the bar.

Dinas must put this disappointment behind them and see what they can achieve in the final four games of the season.

Squad: Manny Djornor, Rhodri Foote, Danny Street, Mike Hayward, Dave Penikett (captain), Jon Carpenter, Gareth Tedstone, Steve Provis, Mark Dunford, Barrie Gunstone, Oli Dalton, Rhys Davies, Ricki Morgan, Joe Briscoe, Amange Hassan, Callum McKenzie.

Further news and information can be found on the club's website at www.dinaspowys.co.uk.

The Athletic's regular midweek skip Brian Whitlock led his lineup to a

New set up pays dividends for Windsor tennis club

PENARTH Windsor mens' teams have made a dream start to the season.

With the launch of a new fifth team under the captaincy of Bill Ellis, and realignments of the playing squads, the new set up is already producing results.

Windsor 2nds launched their season with a stunning victory away at Cwmbran. Tom Sidford and Dan Pitt enjoyed mixed fortunes with a first round loss, but turned things round in the second rubber.

Jon Adamson and Mark Rhodes recorded a first round win, but couldn't maintain their winning ways and went down to their Cwmbran opponents.

Captain John Cox and Dyfri Owen took their first round match, and with the score at 2-3, came home in a hard fought final rubber 3-6 and 5-7, clinching the match 2-4.

"It was an excellent start to the season, especially winning away from home," commented John Cox.

Windsor 2nds now go on to face local rivals Penarth Rectory Road in their second match of the campaign.

Meanwhile, the newly-formed 5ths played their first game and recorded an encouraging 4-2 victory at home against Rhiwbina.

First pair Gareth Griffiths and Mathew Holmes took both their rubbers, while the second pairing of Simon Latham and David Wincott took one from two. The experienced duo of Mike Finnimore and Bill Ellis also won one and lost one.

The 5ths now travel to Radyr for their next game.

Newly-promoted Windsor 4ths took on Llantrisant 2nds, who were also promoted last season with the Penarth outfit. The Penarth team failed to record a win over the Valleys team, but were satisfied with a 3-3 draw.

Peter Owen and Mike Dunn needed a third set tie break to see off their first round opponents, almost squandering a 6-0 lead, but coming home safely in the end. They comfortably disposed of their second round opposition.

Anthony Phillips and Nigel Gabriel won one of their two rubbers, with Phillips, the 4th skipper, turning on some excellent defensive play.

The promising young pairing of Charlie Halpin and Tomaz Phillips showed great tenacity, taking their second round to an exciting third set tie break.

The 4th next face Cardiff Castle 6th team away, in what promises to be stern test.

NG

Centurions bounce back to success with convincing victory

SULLY Centurions First and Second XIs both bounced back from opening day defeats to register convincing wins in the Swalec Premier Cricket League.

Then, on Sunday, Centurions travelled to Bristol CC and came away with a victory in the first round of the ECB National Club Championship.

Unfortunately, the start of the Third and Fourth XI's league season was washed out, due to the Friday and Saturday thunderstorms.

On Saturday, the First XI travelled to Pontarddulais in over-cast conditions, and when skipper Ryan Sylvester won the toss he had no hesitation in putting the home side in to bat.

This proved a good decision, as the wickets began to fall early.

David Eskins, opening the bowling, returned figures of 4 for 37 off 12 overs as Pontarddulais were left reeling.

Ryan Sylvester and brother Jamie picked up two wickets each, with one apiece for Julian Griffiths and Tom Evison.

The innings came to a close after 39 overs, with the west Wales side all out for just 119.

The Centurions victory was never in doubt, as Ryan Sylvester and Will Bragg put on 108 for the first wicket. Ryan was caught out for 51, which left Lloyd Smith (7 not out) and Will Bragg, who carried his bat for 56, to see Centurions home in less than 16 overs.

Pontarddulais 119 all out, Sully 121/1.

The Second XI entertained Pontarddulais Second XI at Sully. The away side opted to bat first and lost an early wicket when Huw Williams bowled Carey

for six, with just seven runs on the board.

But Lloyd and Thomas took the score along to 30 when Gareth Davies removed Thomas for 17.

The Pontarddulais batsmen were finding the going difficult, with only Lloyd showing any real resistance, as wickets began to fall regularly.

Ben Callow picked up three for 55, with Williams and Davies one each.

Laurence O'Sullivan (1 for 6 off 9) and Lloyd Bruce (1 for 24 off 12) frustrated the visitors with over after over of accurate bowling.

The innings came to a close on 168 for 7.

After tea, Centurions had a reasonable start but lost Rhett Jones for 16, with the score on 25.

Ben Callow occupied the crease well, also hitting 16, but off 75 balls, before being stumped, with the score on 82.

Shaz Rehan was going well before being run out for 27, following a slip.

Gareth Davies couldn't repeat last week's half century as he was LBW to Harries for just six, and when Huw Williams was caught for 22, Centurions were looking a little unsteady on 134 for 6.

Skipper Matthew Thomas hit a quickfire 28 not out (including five fours and a six) and Shaz Ellis followed his impressive session behind the stumps with a sensible innings of 28 not out to bring Centurions home in the 45th over.

Sully 171/5 Pontarddulais 168/7.

On Sunday, Centurions travelled to play Bristol Cricket Club in the first round of the ECB National Club Championships.

The home side won the toss and batted first. They probably regretted this decision almost immediately after losing

two wickets with just 6 runs on the board.

David Eskins (1 for 13) and Ryan Sylvester (3 for 22) did the early damage, with only Walker (40) able to occupy the crease for any significant length of time.

The Centurion bowlers always had the upper hand, with wickets for Lloyd Smith, who had figures of 1 for 28, Jamie Sylvester (1 for 23) and Tom Evison (2 for 20).

Tom also produced a brilliant run out, with a direct hit to remove Wilmont, before Liam Woolls came on for his first spell.

This lasted a single delivery, as Pollard was bowled by the first ball Liam delivered to bring the innings to a close at 120 all out.

The Centurion reply looked to be going well, with Ryan Sylvester hitting a six and two 2s to reach 10 in the first over before being adjudged LBW to Wilmont.

Chris Thorne and Lloyd Smith took the score along to 36 before Lloyd was also out LBW to Brown for 12.

Then, when Thorne was caught by Walker off Brown for 8, Centurions were starting to look a little fragile on 39 for 3.

However, a 37 run partnership between Gareth Sullivan and Liam Woolls helped swing the game back in Sully's favour, and when Liam went for 19, the experienced Owen Dawkins (24 not out) joined Gareth Sullivan (36 not out) and the pair took control, batting sensibly to take Centurions to the target in the 29th over.

The next round is a home tie against Downend CC.

Bristol 120 all out, Sully 121/4.

MF

Athletic start their Cup campaign with victory

BARRY Athletic's midweek team opened their Munro Cup programme with a win at Murch, Dinas Powys, on Wednesday night.

Two big rink wins gave the visitors a 15-shot victory with a 71-56 scoreline and 10 points.

Top rink honours went to a squad featuring two highly promising youngsters in skip Chris Wright and his No 3 Dan Jones.

Supported by front men John Coll and Clive Phillips, Chris' rink produced consistent bowling throughout the 18 ends to register a 27-12 success; Chris and Dan are currently first team members.

The Athletic's regular midweek skip Brian Whitlock led his lineup to a

20-6 triumph with Ceri Rossiter, Eric Booker and Bill Summerell contributing to the 14 shot rink win.

The Barry Island club's next Munro Cup fixture is away to Dinas Powys on May 18.

Scores v Murch: C Rossiter, E Booker, B Summerell, B Whitlock 20-6; R Gillham, D Coombs, B Wright, G Whittaker 12-18; A Thomas, R Calvert, G Jones, D Snelling 12-20; C Phillips, J Coll, D Jones, C Wright 27-12.

On Saturday, the first team resume WBA Carruthers Shield action with a home date against Cadoxton.

They complete their Carruthers qualifying group with matches against Bridgend Municipal and Maesteg Welfare later this month.

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